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THE ARMY.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending May 6, 1872.

Tuesday, April 30.

THE leave of absence granted Captain Caleb R. Layton, Sixteenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 56, March 16, 1862, from headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended five days, the application having been approved by the department commander.

First Lieutenant Edward M. Hayes, Fifth Cavalry, will report to Colonel William H. Emory, commander of the Department of the Gulf, for duty as aide-de-camp.

The resignations of the following-named officers have been accepted by the President, to take effect April 27, 1872: Post Chaplain Thomas W. Haskins, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant Robert N. Price, Tenth Cavalry.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander the following transfers in the Fifth Artillery are hereby announced: First Lieutenant Wells Willard, from Battery B to Battery G; First Lieutenant Luigi Lomia, from Battery G to Battery B. When Lieutenant Lomia shall have reported for duty from leave, Lieutenant Willard will join his proper station.

Leave of absence is hereby granted the following-named officers, with permission to go beyond sea: Captain Fergus Walker, First Infantry, for five months; Captain Charles Steelhammer, Fifteenth Infantry, for six months.

Captain Edward S. Meyer, Ninth Cavalry, will report by letter to Major-General George G. Meade, President of the Retiring Board convened at Philadelphia, by Special Orders No. 201, May 23, 1871, from this office, and will hold himself in readiness to appear before the Board for examination when summoned.

By direction of the president, Brigadier-General A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Engineers; Honorable Benjamin Pierce, Superintendent of the Coast Survey, and Lieutenant-Colonel John Newton, Corps of Engineers, in charge of the improvement of New York Harbor, are hereby constituted a Board to examine into and report upon a proper method of revising the exterior pier and bulkhead lines of the harbor of New York on the Brooklyn side. The Board will convene at the earliest practicable day, and will report to the Governor of the State of New York before entering upon their duties.

Discharged.—Private Luigi De Perini, Depot Band, St. Louis Depot, Missouri; Private Joseph Snow, Company A, Third Cavalry, now in confinement at Newport Barracks, Kentucky.

Wednesday, May 1.

Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply for thirty days' extension, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Barnet Wager, Second Artillery.

The telegraphic order of the 30th ultimo, from this office, directing Major N. Michler, Corps of Engineers, to relieve Major R. S. Williamson, Corps of Engineers, of all the public duties in his hands, is hereby confirmed.

Leave of absence for one year, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Major Robert S. Williamson, Corps of Engineers, with permission to go beyond sea.

Discharged.—Second Class Private Thomas Hogan, Ordnance Detachment U. S. Army, now at Benicia Arsenal, California, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home; Recruit Herman D. Meier, General Service U. S. Army, now at recruiting rendezvous, Evansville, Indiana.

Paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 48, March 9, 1872, from this office, granting First Lieutenant David A. Griffith, Third Infantry, six months' leave of absence, is hereby amended to grant him permission to go beyond sea.

Leave of absence for thirty days is hereby granted First Lieutenant James B. Burbank, Third Artillery.

The following-named enlisted men will report in person without delay to the superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, for duty: Corporal James Condon, Battery A, First Artillery; Principal Musician Frederick Reynolds, Fourteenth Infantry; Principal Musician James Beighley, Seventeenth Infantry.

Thursday, May 2.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Quartermaster's Department are hereby made: Captain W. B. Hughes, on reporting at headquarters Department of the Gulf, will relieve Major A. B. Eddy of his duties as chief quartermaster of that department and depot quartermaster at New Orleans; Major Eddy, on being relieved by Captain Hughes, will proceed to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and report by letter to the commanding general Department of the East to relieve Major H. C. Hodges of his duties in that department; on being relieved by Major Eddy, Major Hodges will report to the commanding general Department of the South for assignment to duty as post quartermaster at Atlanta, Georgia. Major J. M. Moore is relieved from the operation of Special Orders No. 74,

March 28, 1872, from this office, and will report to the commanding general Department of the Platte to relieve C. A. Reynolds as depot quartermaster at Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory; on being relieved by Major Moore, Captain Reynolds will report to the commanding general Department of the Missouri for assignment to duty as post quartermaster at Fort Hays, Kansas. Captain A. G. Robinson will be relieved from duty at Fort Hays by an officer to be designated by the department commander, and will then proceed without delay to relieve Captain A. F. Rockwell of his duties at Fort Sill, Indian Territory, reporting by letter to the commanding general Department of Texas; on being relieved by Captain Robinson, Captain Rockwell will report to the commanding officer Department of Arizona to relieve Captain J. G. C. Lee of his duties at Yuma Depot.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish John McCormack, formerly private Battery H, Second Artillery, with transportation from San Francisco, California, to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia.

Discharged.—Sergeant Christian Seibold, Ordnance Detachment U. S. Army, now at Watertown Arsenal, Massachusetts.

Friday, May 3.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the following-named officers of the Medical Department will proceed to Philadelphia, Pa., to attend the annual meeting of the American Medical Association to convene in that city on the 6th inst. Upon adjournment of the Association they will return to their proper stations in this city: Assistant Surgeon J. J. Woodward, Assistant Surgeon George A. Otis.

Discharged.—Private Robert G. Caterson, Company F, Tenth Infantry; Private Frederick B. Howard, Company G, Thirteenth Infantry.

Leave of absence for fifteen days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant David S. Denison, Fifth Artillery.

Leave of absence is hereby granted the following-named officers: Captain John C. Gilmore, Twenty-fourth Infantry, for three months; Captain Henry L. Chipman, Eleventh Infantry, for six months.

Surgeon E. Swift, U. S. Army, will proceed to Washington, D. C., for the purpose of settling his accounts with the Government, and upon completion of that duty he will return to his proper station.

Saturday, May 4.

Sergeant Joseph T. Roberts, General Service U. S. Army, now supposed to be at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, is hereby assigned to the Twentieth Infantry, and will be forwarded to the headquarters of that regiment at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, at the first favorable opportunity.

In accordance with section 32 of the act of July 28, 1866, the President directs that the name of First Lieutenant Robert Davis, U. S. Army (retired), be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the disability results from long and faithful service, or from wounds or injury received in the line of duty, with the full rank of captain, to date from July 28, 1866.

The telegraphic order of the 3d inst., from this office, directing Captain C. H. Hoyt, assistant quartermaster, to report at once to the commanding general Department of the South to take charge, temporarily, of the official papers, funds, and duties of the late Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. McFerran, is hereby confirmed.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Surgeon John Campbell is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Dakota, and will report in person to the commanding general Department of the South for assignment to duty.

Monday, May 6.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish private John Burns, Battery A, Fourth Artillery, with transportation from this city to Charlotte, North Carolina, the station of his command, the cost of which will be charged to the soldier upon the rolls of his battery.

The extension of leave of absence granted Captain H. F. Brewerton, Fifth Artillery, in Special Orders No. 39, February 15, 1872, from this office, is hereby still further extended sixty days.

On the recommendation of the Acting Paymaster-General, the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Pay Department are hereby made: Major H. B. Reese is relieved from duty in the Department of the East, and will repair to Charleston, South Carolina, reporting by letter to the commanding general Department of the South for assignment to duty, relieving Major Simeon Smith. Upon being relieved by Major Reese, Major Smith will report to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to duty as chief paymaster of that department. Major William Smith, on completing the tour of payment for March and April, will report to the commanding general Department of Dakota to relieve Major W. H. Johnston. Upon being relieved by Major Smith, Major Johnston will report to the commanding general Department of the Gulf for assignment to duty. Major Israel O. Dewey is relieved from duty in the Department of the Missouri, to take effect on completion of the payments for March and April, and will report to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to duty.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Headquarters Third Infantry, from Fort Wallace, Kas., to Fort Hays, Kas., April 23. Ordered.

Company A, Third Infantry, from Fort Larned, Kas., to Fort Dodge, Kas., April 23. Ordered.

Company B, Third Infantry, from Fort Larned, Kas., to Camp Supply, I. T., April 23. Ordered.

Companies D and F, Third Infantry, from Fort Lyon, C. T., to Camp Supply, I. T., April 23. Ordered.

Company G, Third Infantry, from Fort Reynolds, C. T., to Fort Lyon, C. T., April 23. Ordered.

Companies D, E, and F, Fifth Infantry, from Fort Harker, Kas., to Fort Larned, Kas., April 23. Ordered.

Headquarters Companies D, G, and I, Sixth Infantry, from Fort Hays, Kas., to Department of Dakota, April 23. Ordered.

Company A, Sixth Infantry, from Fort Larned, Kas., to Department of Dakota, April 22. Ordered.

Companies B, C, H, and K, Sixth Infantry, from Camp Supply, I. T., to Department of Dakota, April 23. Ordered.

Companies E and F, Sixth Infantry, from Fort Dodge, Kas., to Department of Dakota, April 23. Ordered.

Companies D, E, G, and I, Eighth Infantry, from Chicago, Ill., to Beaver City, U. T., April 27. Ordered.

Company E, Tenth Infantry, from Ringgold Barracks, Tex., to Fort Brown, Tex., April 22. Ordered.

Company F, Tenth Infantry, from Fort Brown, Tex., to Ringgold Barracks, Tex., April 22. Ordered.

THE following acts of Congress are published for the information and government of all concerned:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Paymaster-General of the Army be, and he is hereby, directed to allow and pay to Asa M. Trimble, late first lieutenant and regimental quartermaster of the sixty-fifth Ohio volunteer infantry, out of the appropriation for the pay of the Army, the difference between the pay of quartermaster-sergeant and that of second lieutenant and regimental quartermaster, from the 1st day of May 1862, to the 9th day of October, 1862, inclusive, he having actually acted in the capacity of such second lieutenant and regimental quartermaster during that time, and having received therefor only the pay of a quartermaster-sergeant.

Approved, April 26, 1872.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Brigadier-General M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster-General.

Defeat has plainly overtaken the attempt to take a hundred millions, more or less, out of the Treasury to pay the railroad companies the difference between their regular fares and the two cents a mile they received for transporting soldiers during the war. The only argument urged in its favor was that the railroad companies were compelled by an order from the Quartermaster's Department to accept the two cents a mile; that this was very unjust because the cost of transportation was not equal on different roads; that in many cases this was only half the regular fare, and that it did not pay the expenses of transportation. The fact is that, in 1862, Secretary Stanton called a convention of railroad managers, in this city, for the purpose of fixing a uniform tariff for military railroad service. A committee of this convention made a report, the first paragraph of which was as follows:

Resolved, That the rates offered to the Government for the transportation of passengers shall be two cents per mile, allowing to each soldier not exceeding 30 pounds of luggage, this to include those things ordinarily carried by a soldier in heavy marching orders, and tents.

This rate was accepted by the Government and by all the railroads engaged in military transportation, with the exception of the Baltimore and Ohio, the Baltimore and Washington Railroad, and some railroads in Missouri, for which Congress, by special legislation, made other provisions. The Quartermaster-General in his report for 1862, said: "The tariff agreed upon in the convention, though one which pays expenses and some profit to the companies, is at rates below those which the companies have generally received for their ordinary business during the present season." In August, 1865, the Quartermaster-General issued another order, in which he quoted the report of the Committee of Railroad Managers, and ordered all quartermasters to be guided by them in all payments to railroads until modified or changed. Thus it will be seen that the rates of transportation paid by the Government were fixed by the railroad companies themselves, and accepted by all except the two or three named, and there is therefore no justice in their present request. Mr. Negley, who introduced the bill, says that he did so at the request of a gentleman, who said that he made the request on behalf of a number of Mr. Negley's constituents. He has since had reason to doubt the truth of this statement, and, being personally opposed to the principle of the bill, and not intending to assume its guardianship, he asked leave to withdraw it. The scheme is understood to have been devised by a lawyer of this city.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Brigadier-General A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Engineers.

THE Government dredge-boat *General M. D. McAllister*, intended for work on the bar off New Orleans, a description of which has heretofore been published, made a successful trial trip below Sandy Hook May 4. Everything about the ship's machinery worked well, her three oscillating engines performing their labor smoothly and with ease, making, with twenty pounds of steam, as high as sixty-five revolutions per minute, though the average rate was forty. Her average rate of speed was fourteen knots per hour, though for a while sixteen knots were maintained. The hull of the *McAllister* was built at Steers' ship-yard, Greenpoint, and is of the best material and strongest construction. The machinery is by Messrs. John Roach & Son, of the Morgan Iron Works, foot of Ninth street, East river. The boat is built on plans similar to those of the *Esquisses* now at work on the bar, but with some important improvements.

ments which experience has shown to be necessary. One of these is the increased draft, this boat being intended to cut a channel of twenty-four feet, the boat now at work cutting only nineteen and a half feet. On the first boat much difficulty was experienced from the breaking of the excavating screw, but on the new one the screw is made of composition gun-metal, having six blades, which may be unshipped and replaced by duplicates. In addition to this, there is an arrangement for clearing logs or other obstructions from the bow end. Attached to the sides of the vessel forward, and arranged to be raised or lowered by a pair of engines, is fitted a large deflector. This is lowered on the outward trip, and carries about forty cubic yards of mud, which is afterward dumped in deep water. Previous to the employment of these vessels in dredging, there was an average depth of only 15 feet of water on the bar, and ships drawing more than this were at the mercy of the tow-boat interests, and frequently remained fast for weeks; but for the past two years, the dredges have materially modified this condition of things. The officers of the *McAllister* are as follows: Captain Jones, (who had command of the *Quaker City* when Mark Twain and the other innocents went abroad); Chief-Engineer Marsland, Superintending Engineer Edwin Marsland; D. Gallagher, first assistant engineer; Henry Wilson, second assistant engineer; L. Carroll, third assistant engineer; Morris Shannon, fourth assistant engineer; Samuel Askin, first officer, and James A. Thompson, steward. Her complement of crew consists of twelve engineers and oil men, twelve firemen, six coal-passers, six sailors, cook and steward. Among the guests on board were Major C. W. Howell, Engineer Corps United States Army, Department of New Orleans, who accepts the boat on behalf of the Government after she has been approved and delivered at New Orleans; Mr. Henry Rodman, general superintendent of the Morgan Iron Works; Mr. Allen, formerly of the Novelty Works, and designer of the *McAllister's* engines, and others.

THE following is a memorandum of orders, circulars, and instructions, relating to the Corps of Engineers, issued or received during the month of April, 1872:

Battalion of Engineers—Mitigates sentence of General Court-martial in case of Private August Hollweg, Company C, promulgated in G. C. M. Orders No. 150, series of 1871, headquarters Department of the East, S. O. No. 64, par. 3, headquarters Department East, April 5, 1872.

Major Gillmore—To make an examination of the Ash-spo river, S. C. Letter, Chief of Engineers April 8.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thom—To make an examination or survey of harbor of Edgartown, Mass. Letter, Chief of Engineers, April 8.

Battalion of Engineers—Artificer Wm. M. Cloney, Company C, to be discharged the service of the United States. S. O. No. 87, paragraph 5, W. D., A. G. O., April 12.

First Lieutenant Miller—Granted leave of absence for twenty days. S. O. No. 41, H. Q. C. of E., April 12.

Major Craighill—To make an examination of Norton Creek, Md. Letter, Chief of Engineers, April 13.

Captain Lydecker, First Lieutenant Mercur—Members of General Court-martial to meet at West Point, N. Y., April 18, 1872. S. O. No. 88, par. 5, W. D., A. G. O., April 13.

Captain Overman—Granted leave of absence for four months. S. O. No. 90, par. 1, W. D., A. G. O., April 16.

Major Weitzel, Major Merrill—Board of Engineers to assemble at Cincinnati, Ohio, 24th inst., to examine and report upon the plan of Mr. F. R. Brunot, for movable hydraulic gates for chutes and locks, etc. S. O. No. 44, par. 1, H. Q. C. of E., April 16.

Captain Twining, Captain Raymond, First Lieutenant Post, First Lieutenant Davis, Second Lieutenant Hinman, Additional Second Lieutenant Marshall—Members of a General Court-martial to meet at Willett's Point, N. Y. H., May 2d, 1872. First Lieutenant W. H. Heuer, judge-advocate. S. O. No. 80, par. 1, H. Q. Dep't East, April 27.

Engineer Officers and Agents—Places the *Oestliche Post* of N. Y. city, on advertising list of War Department. Circular, Office C. of E., April 30.

THE Military Committee reported nine bills at the evening session of the House Tuesday, five of which were passed, one re-committed, and upon two adverse reports were adopted. The House bills regulating the pay of engineer soldiers on extra duty, establishing a military prison, and permitting officers of the Army to take leaves of absence for sixty days once in two years, or thirty days once every year, were passed. The Senate bills to establish a system of deposits, to prevent desertion, and elevate the condition of the rank and file of the Army, and to establish the pay of the enlisted men of the Army, were also passed. The last bill reported, which provided for issuing transferable land warrants to the soldiers and sailors of the late war, or their heirs, met with considerable objection from Western members, and after a debate of about two hours the House adjourned, having ordered the main question.

The House bill transferring the powers and duties which devolve upon the quartermaster and commissary-generals in consequence of the act of July 4, 1864, and subsequent acts, to the proper accounting officers of the Treasury, with full power to examine and revise any and all cases under said act, heretofore acted upon, was adversely reported, and the bill failed.

An important step is the conclusion reached in the case of Cadet Murphy, who left the Military Academy under circumstances thus stated by Mr. Roberts: "This young man was six months in the academy, and was declared deficient on account simply of some recitation marks. In everything else, personal conduct, character, etc., he was unexceptionable." A resolution was offered permitting his re-nomination by the member of Congress from his district, so that on entering he would again take his place in the lowest class, but the Military Committee will report against it, though it is said their sympathies are with the young man.

On May 1st, the House passed the bill donating Section 33 of township No. 20 north, of range No. 2, east of Willamette meridian, embracing a portion of Fort Steilacoom military reservation, Washington Territory, for the use and purpose of an insane asylum in that Territory.

Senator Ames reported from the Military Committee without amendment, the Senate bill to repeal so much of the sixth section of the act of March 3, 1869, as prohibits promotions in the Adjutant-General's, the Inspector General's, the Pay, the Quartermaster's, the Commissary, the Ordnance, the Engineer, and the Medical Departments. It is provided that no new appointments shall be made to the places made vacant by promotions under the act.

The House bill for a commission to enquire into the condition of Texas has passed the Senate.

The Senate Naval Committee have reported back, without amendment, the Senate bill for the relief of the officers and crew of the United States steamer *Vicksburgh*. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Navy, in conjunction with the Secretary of the Interior, to draw from the Navy pension fund the moiety and proceeds of seventy-eight bales of cotton picked up at sea by the officers and crew of the *Vicksburgh* on May 31 and June 1, 1864, and the same is to be distributed to the officers and crew of the vessel. The committee have reported a bill referring the claim of Madeleine Vinton Dahlgren, widow of the late Rear-Admiral John A. Dahlgren, to the court of claims.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

Nineteenth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the adjutant-general of the Army for an extension of sixty days, was granted First Lieutenant Oliver Wetmore, Jr. May 1.

Sixth Infantry.—Captain W. W. Sanders, A. D. C., April 30, was ordered to Little Rock, Arkansas, to inspect that post.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Brigadier-General A. H. Terry, Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

Sixth Infantry.—Until further orders First Lieutenant E. B. Gibbs, A. D. C., will perform, in addition to his own, the duties of chief quartermaster of the Department of the South.

Uniforms at Court.—Hereafter during the session of any General Court-martial or court of inquiry, convened by orders from department headquarters, the members, the judge-advocate, any officer appearing as counsel, and all commissioned officers and enlisted men appearing as witnesses, will wear the full uniform of their respective grades as prescribed by the Regulations of the Army. The accused will appear in full uniform, but without side-arms.

Death of a Ku Klux.—Deputy United States Marshal J. D. F. Duncan, of South Carolina, has made the following statement of the circumstances connected with the shooting of one Minor Paris, at Cherokee Ford, on Broad river, Union county, South Carolina, on the morning of the 12th of April:

"The shooting was done by a detachment of soldiers, in command of Lieutenant Benner. Myself and Lieutenant Benner had been informed that Minor Paris was at the fishing-ground at that place, and went there for the purpose of arresting him. To secure his arrest, Lieutenant Benner placed sentinels near the fishing-ground, in the neighborhood of his boat, and at about sunrise in the morning the said Paris, with one Mormon Harris, was seen approaching the boat, about sixty or seventy yards astern, when the sentinel hailed them. Harris stopped and gave up, and Paris refused, and swore that he would not be arrested, and ran for his boat—the soldiers following and imploring him to stop and surrender. He repeatedly refused, and cursed the soldiers whenever they called to him to halt, and at last they told him if he did not stop and give up they would shoot him, when he repeated his curses of defiance, and, reaching the boat, jumped in and pushed from the shore. When the soldiers arrived at the bank they again called to him to surrender, and he refusing, they fired some pistol shots into the water near his boat, and finding that of no avail, they directed several shots at him after he was at the distance of some 300 or 400 yards from the shore, when he fell, wounded through the hips. His boat drifted against a rock, and he crawled up from it, and remained on the rock until myself and Lieutenant Benner came to the scene, when another boat was procured and he was brought to shore. Afterward medical aid was procured, when it was pronounced that his wound was mortal. He lived until about 2:30 o'clock the same day and died of the wound. Paris has been lying out for some months past to evade arrest for assisting a Ku Klux party to murder one Tom Roundtree, colored, of which charge there is positive proof, and for which a bench-warrant was issued by the judges of the United States Court."

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan: Chicago, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Tompkins, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, having reported at department headquarters, in compliance with S. O. No. 74, c. 2, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, as chief quartermaster of this military department, he will immediately relieve Lieutenant-Colonel S. B. Holabird, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, in his duties as chief quartermaster of the department, depot, purchasing, and post quartermaster; the latter will transfer for all funds, property, books, papers, records, plans, etc., which pertain to the duties of the several offices mentioned, for which the usual receipts will be given. After the transfer above directed has been duly made and completed, Lieutenant-Colonel S. B. Holabird will report for further orders at department headquarters.

Leave of absence for seven days was granted Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Tompkins, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, chief quartermaster of the Department of Dakota, April 29.

Fort Rice, D. T.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Rice, D. T., May 15. Detail for the court: Captains C. E. Clarke and F. E. Grossman, First Lieutenants Henry Marcotte, T. G. Troxel, Horatio Potter, Jr., and C. H. Greene, and Second Lieutenants Josiah Chance and Robert Cairns, Seventeenth Infantry. First Lieutenant James Humbert, Seventeenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

The leave of absence granted Major Rodney Smith, paymaster U. S. Army, in S. O. No. 61, c. s., from department headquarters, was extended two days April 27.

Sixth Infantry.—On the arrival at Sioux City, Iowa, of the regimental headquarters and first six companies of the Sixth Infantry, in accordance with the provisions of S. O. No. 31, c. s., headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, they will at once proceed by boat to Fort Buford, D. T., and take post, relieving the three companies of the Seventh Infantry now constituting the garrison of that post, which will then proceed by boat, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel C. C. Gilbert, Seventh Infantry, to Fort Benton, M. T., whence the command will march to and take post at Fort Shaw, M. T. On the arrival at Sioux City of the second detachment of the Sixth Infantry, consisting of Companies B, C, H, and K, under the command of the major of the regiment, it will proceed by boat and take post as follows, viz.: Companies B and C, at the new post to be constructed at the Northern Pacific railroad crossing of the Missouri river. The lieutenant-colonel of the regiment (when he joins) is assigned to the command of these companies and the new post. The major and companies H and K, at Fort Stevenson, D. T., relieving the two companies of the Seventeenth Infantry now forming the garrison of that post, which, upon being relieved, will proceed under command of the major of the Seventeenth, to and take post at Fort Rice. The chief quartermaster of the Department of Dakota is charged with the supply at Sioux City, and at Fort Benton, of proper transportation for the execution of the movements hereinbefore ordered. The transportation provided for three of the companies of the Sixth going to Fort Buford will be of sufficiently light draft to proceed thence to Fort Benton with the three companies of the Seventh. The transportation provided for the companies of the Sixth going to Fort Stevenson will be made use of for the movement thence to Fort Rice of the two companies of the Seventeenth relieved.

Fort Pembina, D. T.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Pembina, D. T., May 22. Detail for the court: Captains Loyd Wheaton and A. A. Harbach, Twentieth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon Ezra Woodruff, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants C. O. Bradley and Paul Hardwood, and Second Lieutenant C. H. Ribbel, Twentieth Infantry. Second Lieutenant John Bannister, Twentieth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Fort Randall, D. T.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Randall, D. T., May 8. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel E. S. Otis, Captains De W. C. Poole, C. W. Miner, and G. H. Cram, First Lieutenants L. D. Adair and M. E. Hogan, and Second Lieutenants W. J. Campbell, O. M. Smith, and F. L. Davies, Twenty-second Infantry. First Lieutenant L. E. Campbell, Twenty-second Infantry, judge-advocate.

Fort Ellis, M. T.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Ellis, M. T., May 22. Detail for the court: Major E. M. Baker, Captains Ed. Ball, Lewis Thompson, and G. L. Tyler, Second Cavalry; Captain L. C. Forsyth, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army; First Lieutenants J. G. McAdams, S. T. Hamilton, and G. C. Doane, Second Lieutenants E. J. McClelland, C. B. Schofield, and L. H. Jerome, Second Cavalry. First Lieutenant F. C. Grugan, Second Cavalry, judge-advocate.

Payment of Troops.—Major Rodney Smith, paymaster, U. S. A., May 3, was directed to make payments to April 30, 1872, of the troops stationed in the District of Minnesota, comprising the garrisons of Forts Snelling, Abercrombie, Wadsworth, Ransom, Totten, and Pembina.

Seventh Infantry.—Major W. H. Lewis, A. A. I. G. of the Department of Dakota, May 3 was ordered (via the Union Pacific Railroad) to Montana, to make a thorough inspection of all the posts in that Territory, the quartermaster's depot at Fort Shaw, and the paymaster's station at Helena. After completing this duty, should the Missouri river be in navigable condition, he will proceed from Fort Benton down the river, inspecting in succession all the posts and stations, to include Lower Brule Agency, whence he will return to department headquarters and render a full detailed report of his inspections. Should he not find the river in boatable condition at Fort Benton, he will return thence direct, by stage and rail, to department headquarters and report for further instructions.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

Second Artillery.—Captain W. McKee Dunn, Jr., A. D. C., May 1 was ordered to Mount Meridian, Putnam county, Indiana, on business connected with department headquarters.

Captain W. A. Elderkin, commissary of subsistence U. S. Army, and acting assistant quartermaster at Denver City, C. T., May 1 was ordered from that place to Pueblo, C. T., on business connected with the Quartermaster's Department.

Major J. M. Moore, quartermaster U. S. Army, depot quartermaster Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, April 30 was ordered to Kit Carson, C. T., on business connected with the Quartermaster's Department.

Sixth Cavalry.—The detachment of engineers now at department headquarters, all of Company D, Battalion of Engineers, April 29 was ordered to Fort Riley, Kansas, reporting, upon arrival, to the commanding officer Sixth Cavalry. The detachment will accompany the three companies of the Sixth Cavalry to Fort Hays Kansas. Upon arrival at the latter point the command

ing officer Sixth Cavalry was directed to select two of the detachment, which two will be retained with his command during the summer. The other three members of the detachment will remain at Fort Hays until further orders relative to them are issued from department headquarters. The members of the detachment will be provided with horses at Fort Riley, and will not be required to perform other than their legitimate duties, viz., collating elaborate topographical information.

Fifteenth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability was granted Second Lieutenant H. P. Sherman April 29.

Fifth Infantry.—The commanding officer Southeastern Kansas was directed April 27 to send a reliable non-commissioned officer and fifteen men to Muskogee Station, on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, to report to Second Lieutenant De Hart G. Quinby, Fifth Infantry.

Leave of absence for ten days was granted Assistant Surgeon S. G. Cowdry, U. S. Army.

The Cass County Troubles.—A despatch from Holden, Mo., May 6, says: "There is the best assurance for saying that if the Sheriff of Cass county fails to perform his duty, that the United States authorities will arrest the assassins of Stevenson, Cline and Dutrob in the face of Governor Brown's proclamation."

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska.

Omaha Barracks Nebraska.—Omaha Barracks are located in Douglas County, Nebraska, four miles above the city of Omaha, and two miles from the banks of the Niagara River. The post is a large one and was originally built up for a full regiment of infantry. There are ten sets of company quarters; a set of quarters for the band; large quartermaster and commissary warehouses; eight large stables which have been used as winter shelters for horses belonging to cavalry companies; and fourteen sets of officers' quarters, ten of them being double. There is also a large hospital, and three long rows of laundresses' quarters. Several wells are inside the enclosure of the barracks, but the time honored "water-wagon" still does duty here as it does in less favored localities. Many trees have been planted, and this spring a large number has been added to those which were before doing well; these trees are mainly cottonwood, maple, box-elder, and elm, and a few years hence will present a beautiful appearance. It must not be inferred from this that they do not already look cheerful, but they are young, and their capacity for affording shade somewhat limited. In front of the post there stretches a wide plateau to the banks of the Missouri river, and beyond that stream may be seen the high bluffs in Iowa; brown, russet and purple, on which through the fall and winter months may be seen the creeping fires, presenting at times a wonderfully beautiful spectacle, as the long crooked lines of flame stretch down the hill-sides. These are all called "prairie fires," perhaps improperly so, as wood-land and moor-land alike are visited by the fire-fiend. Again in summer time this valley is a charming scene to look upon, the green corn fields seeming almost boundless in extent, and the distant summits being covered with grass. For miles and miles back of the post there is what is called "rolling prairie," which stretches on and on until it reaches the Plains, which cover the whole West even to the base of the Black Hills. The post has frequently been characterized as the finest in the Army. This seems like high praise, and sometimes appears to be really borne out by facts. Until recently the family of the commanding general of the Department of the Platte resided here as a matter of choice, and it also contained several other pleasant families.

During the summer there are but few soldiers here, they being sent out on the Plains, but during the winter, after active operations have ceased, the companies are brought in, as it is much cheaper to keep a large body of troops here than it is farther west, hay and forage being obtainable in unlimited quantities and at very low rates.

The headquarters of the Second Cavalry have been here since the summer of 1869. A portion of the ninth regiment of infantry has also been here since that time.

Several years ago this was the scene of a great gathering of the tribes which inhabited this portion of the country, and who had been at war with each other for many years. The description given of it is exceedingly interesting to those who are fond of Indian lore. Now in the evening the band plays near the flag-staff, and many equipages come up from the city filled with people who wish to enjoy the drive and listen to the music.

It is far superior to most frontier posts, and in a few years will be a most desirable station, as it is said to be the intention to make this the outfitting depot for recruits bound for the Western and Pacific States and Territories. It seems peculiarly adapted for this purpose, being on the line of the Pacific Railroad. It is better adapted for a cavalry depot than any post belonging to the Government.

Nineteenth Infantry.—First Lieutenant Placidus Ord, aide-de-camp to the commanding general, reported at Department headquarters April 22.

Brigadier-General Ord has issued an order in relation to Army target practice, the provisions of which are as follows:

I. Target practice, in accordance with the system adopted by the War Department May 30, 1862, will hereafter be required on Monday of each week, at the several posts in this department, except when impracticable on account of inclement weather, when it will take place on the first fair day, Sunday excepted, thereafter. All men of the companies present, excepting the sick, guard, bakers, and one company cook, will attend this practice. Under authority from the Secretary of War, as contained in a letter from the Adjutant-General's Office, dated April 17, 1872, three ball cartridges per man per week are authorized for this practice.

Reports of the firing will be rendered weekly to the post commander by company commanders, and a consolidated monthly report will be sent to these headquarters by the post commander, on the last day of each month. These company and consolidated reports will show, by name, the best shot, number of shots fired, number of hits, average distance of hits from centre of target, with the name of each absentee and cause of his absence. At the foot of each consolidated monthly report the post commander will add such remarks in regard to the arms and ammunition as may have been rendered necessary or proper by the practice.

II. Commanding officers of posts in the Indian country, in this department, are authorized to issue cartridges for the use of their garrisons, from time to time as needed.

Indian Attack.—A party of Indians, supposed to be Cherokees, attacked the mail escort from Omaha at Lafonté Creek, twenty miles west of Fort Laramie, Wednesday, killing the sergeant in command. The party returned to Fort Laramie, bringing his body. The party left again on Friday for Fort Fetterman, having been reinforced.

Twenty-second Infantry.—First Lieutenant L. E. Campbell May 2 was relieved from duty as judge-advocate of the General Court-martial appointed in S. O. No. 76, c. s. from department headquarters, and Second Lieutenant W. J. Campbell appointed in his stead.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters San Antonio, Texas.

San Antonio, Texas.—A General Court-martial convened in San Antonio, Texas, April 25. Detail for the court: Captain Benj. C. Card, assistant quartermaster; Captain N. Prime, Tenth Infantry; Captain F. W. Perry, Twenty-fourth Infantry; First Lieutenant A. Geddes, Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant T. D. Merritt, Twenty-fourth Infantry; First Lieutenant D. H. Kelton, Tenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant S. K. Thompson, Twenty-fifth Infantry. Second Lieutenant D. F. Stiles, Tenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A despatch from San Antonio, Texas, May 2, announces that the following has been received by the El Paso stage: "The Gonzales train, consisting of six wagons and about seventy-five mules, with nine men and two women, was attacked by Indians at Howard's Well, above Port Clarke. The train was captured and all hands burned to death by the Indians, except one woman, who escaped. She says the Indians numbered 150. General Merritt sent Lieutenant Vincent with cavalry in pursuit. He overtook the Indians, fought them, and lost his life." (Signed) ADAMS.

First Lieutenant Fred R. Vincent, Ninth Cavalry, the officer referred to, served during the war as a captain in the Volunteer force. He was born in Prince Edward's Island, and appointed in the Army from Missouri as second lieutenant June 18, 1867.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General Geo. G. Meade: Hdqrs, Philadelphia.

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

Brigadier-General Irvin McDowell: Cor. Greene and Houston Sts., N.Y.

The following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending May 8: Majors A. J. Alexander, Eighth Cavalry, and R. J. Dodge, Third Infantry; Colonels H. B. Clitz, Tenth Infantry, and H. J. Hunt, Fifth Artillery; Captain C. B. McLellan, Sixth Cavalry; First Lieutenant L. Lomia, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenants H. W. Hubbell, Jr., First Artillery, and A. L. Morton, Fifth Artillery; Captain C. W. Howell, Corps of Engineers; First Lieutenant A. G. Forse, First Cavalry; Captain C. R. Layton, Sixteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant W. H. Heur, Corps of Engineers; Second Lieutenant D. S. Denison, Fifth Artillery.

Fort Columbus, N. Y. H.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., on the 2d of May. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Wallen, Eighth Infantry; Captain F. E. Taylor, First Artillery; Assistant Surgeon A. H. Hoff, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Mott Hooton, Twenty-second Infantry; Second Lieutenants R. G. Rutherford, Twelfth Infantry, R. H. Patterson, First Artillery, and John Pope, Jr., First Artillery. Second Lieutenant D. M. Taylor, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

Willett's Point, N. Y. H.—The General Court-martial instituted in S. O. No. 80, c. s. from department headquarters, of which Captain W. J. Twining, Corps of Engineers, is president, convened at Willett's Point, N. Y. H., on the 7th of May.

David's Island, N. Y. H.—A General Court-martial met at David's Island, N. Y. H., on the 4th of May. Detail for the court: Captains H. M. Lazelle, J. J. Van Horn, W. S. Worth, First Lieutenants Charles Porter, A. W. Corliss, Second Lieutenants P. H. Ray, J. McE. Hyde, Eighth Infantry. Second Lieutenant C. A. Earhart, Eighth Infantry, judge-advocate.

Fifth Artillery.—The leave of absence for seven days granted First Lieutenant E. L. Zalinski, by the commanding officer Fort Adams, Rhode Island, on the 25th ultimo, was extended two days, May 2.

Major Thomas F. Barr, judge-advocate U. S. Army, May 2 was ordered to Boston, Mass., to carry out the special instructions received from the department commander.

Military Academy.—The members of the graduating class at the Military Academy are already preparing for their summer campaign, and have issued invitations to a hop to be given on the 14th of June. The managers are Cadets G. F. Harrison, E. W. Casey, E. S. Beacom, J. E. Bloom. The committee on invitations—Cadets M. G. Birney, C. M. O'Connor, A. S. Cummins, H. C. La-point, Robert Loudon.

Eighth Infantry.—This command, for some time past stationed at David's Island, New York Harbor, we learn, has received marching orders, and the post is to be entirely vacated.

DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooke: Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.

Payment of Troops.—Paymaster V. C. Hanna, U. S. Army, May 3 was ordered to pay the troops at Fort Wayne, Michigan, Indianapolis Arsenal, Indiana, Fort Gratiot, Michigan, Columbus Arsenal, Ohio.

Leave of absence for fifteen days, to take effect on the 7th instant, has been granted Major J. A. Potter, quartermaster U. S. Army, chief quartermaster of the department.

First Infantry.—Captain R. E. Johnston, May 2 was appointed special inspector to inspect certain ordnance for which Captain W. N. Tisdall, First Infantry, is responsible.

Captain I. D. De Russy May 2 was appointed special inspector to inspect certain quartermaster's stores and clothing, camp and garrison equipage, for which Captain Fergus Walker, First Infantry, is responsible.

First Artillery.—Captain William Silvey May 2 was appointed special inspector to inspect certain quartermaster's stores and commissary property for which Second Lieutenant G. W. Deshler, First Artillery, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence Fort Ontario, New York, is responsible.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Maj.-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Hdqrs, San Francisco, Cal.

The following officers reported at headquarters Military Division of the Pacific during the week ending April 30: Captain Samuel S. Sumner, Fifth Cavalry; First Lieutenant Duncan Sherman, Second Lieutenant James Rockwell, Lieutenant-Colonel W. L. Elliot, First Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon George S. Rose, U. S. Army.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cary H. Fry, formerly P. G., has reported at San Francisco, and is announced as Chief Paymaster, Military Division of the Pacific.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Benicia Barracks, Cal.—The General Court-martial which convened at Benicia Barracks, California, April 15, by virtue of S. O. No. 54, c. s., headquarters Department of California, and of which Colonel Alvan C. Gillen, First Cavalry, is president, and Second Lieutenant James Rockwell, Jr., First Cavalry, judge-advocate, was dissolved April 25.

Second Artillery.—Company H has made requisition upon the commanding officer Benicia Arsenal for breech-loading Springfield muskets, model 1868. The sixty "breech-loading rifle muskets, model 1870, experimental," issued to the company for trial, have been sent to the commanding officer Benicia Arsenal for repairs. When repaired, these muskets will be issued to Company F, Twenty-first Infantry, at Angel Island for competitive trial, and report thereon by the company commander.

Twenty-first Infantry.—Second Lieutenant William L. Sherwood, April 29, was granted permission to apply to the Adjutant-General for an extension of one month to his leave, in addition to that granted to him in S. O. No. 51, c. s., from department headquarters.

First Lieutenant Valentine M. C. Silva has been directed to report to the commanding officer, Department of the Columbia, for duty at Fort Vancouver, relieving first Lieutenant Robert Pollock, of the same regiment, who will report to the commanding officer, Angel Island, to command company F, now at that post.

Second Lieutenant Edward B. Rheem, has been ordered to report to the president of the retiring board in San Francisco, June 3, 1872, as a witness in the case of Captain George H. A. Dimpel, military storekeeper, Quartermaster's Department.

Twelfth Infantry.—First Lieutenant Charles P. Egan has been ordered to his station, and to report to the commanding officer, Angel Island, to conduct any recruits at that post for company G, Twelfth Infantry, to Camp Mojave, A. T.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Brigadier-General F. R. S. Canby, Headquarters, Portland, Oregon.

First Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, granted First Lieutenant Duncan Sherman, from Department of the Columbia, April 17, 1872, has been extended thirty days.

Twenty-third Infantry.—First Lieutenant Charles Bird April 24 was ordered to join his company. He will take command of the recruits for companies of his regiment in Arizona under orders to proceed by the Newbern.

Captain John J. Copinger, Company A, has been directed to report to the commanding officer Angel Island, for duty with recruits of his regiment till his company arrives from Fort Boise, Indian Territory.

The recruits for companies A, B, G, I and K, will remain at Angel Island, till their companies arrive at that post, and until further orders will be commanded by First Lieutenant Charles Bird. Second Lieutenant Richard H. Poillon has been ordered to Fort Yuma, Cal., to take charge of the recruits and laundresses at Angel Island for companies C, D, E, F and H, Twenty-third Infantry.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Crook, Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.

Despatches from Arizona say that the Apache Indians are swarming around Prescott. The Miner has two columns of accounts of fresh atrocities. The troops remain idle, awaiting the result of General Howard's peace mission. The Indians attacked Agua Fria Station, killed two men, and captured all the stock. Three other murders are reported.

Fort Yuma, Cal.—Major George P. Ihrie, paymaster U. S. Army, has been ordered to pay the troops at Fort Yuma, California, and at posts in Southern Arizona to April 30, 1872; and those at posts in Northern Arizona to June 30, 1872.

Doctor W. W. Bidlack, A. A. S., U. S. Army, en route to the Department of Arizona, was ordered to report to the commanding officer, Angel Island, to accompany a detachment of recruits to Fort Yuma.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE French frigate *Laflone*, from Honolulu, has arrived at San Francisco.

LIEUTENANT-Commander T. F. Jewell, from the Naval Academy, is ordered to the *Tuscarora*.

LIEUTENANT W. H. PARKER has been detached from the Portsmouth Navy-yard and placed on waiting orders.

PASSED Assistant Paymaster Mellach, of the Navy, who was recently sentenced to be dismissed for irregularity in his accounts, has had his sentence so modified by the Secretary of the Navy as to suspend him for three years from rank, duty, and pay.

THE House Committee on Naval Affairs has agreed to postpone until December next the Senate bill providing for the promotion of Commodore Green and fourteen other Naval officers, in accordance with the report of the Board of which Vice-Admiral Rowan was president.

THE Spanish corvette-of-war *Tornada* went to sea April 22, from Havana, sailing to windward, in order, it is said, to assist the Naval forces away from the island in the execution of some important service. This may be interpreted as having gone to join the *Gerona* and *Arepiles* in their expedition to Venezuela.

A TASTEFUL uniform is now being made for the Marine Band at Portsmouth Navy-yard, consisting of Navy blue cloth, with three rows of gilt buttons on the coat, and gilt cord, and a "garde nationale," hat with white and red plume. The uniform will be ready in a few weeks—when it is, probably the band will have a

A DISCHARGE of 227 men took place at the Portsmouth Navy-yard Tuesday night, April 30, leaving a force of only 270 men in the several departments. The force at the Navy-yard is to be generally reduced, owing to the rapid exhaustion of the naval appropriation fund. The appropriation made for the next fiscal year, beginning with July, will restore the old order of things.

THE positions of Port Admiral of New York and commandant of the Navy-yard at Brooklyn, held respectively by Rear-Admirals Stringham and Melancthon Smith, have virtually been consolidated by an order relieving those officers from duty, and directing Vice-Admiral Rowan, now on special duty in Washington, to assume the control of both offices on the 1st proximo. The paddle-wheel steamer *Frolic*, lately put in repair, will be used as Admiral Rowan's flagship.

THE Japanese Legation visited the Naval Academy last Saturday, arriving there between 10 and 11 o'clock A. M. The Chief Ambassador, Iwakura, Assistant Ambassadors Kido and Inamoguchi, Secretaries Tanabe and Shioda, Minister Mori and about twenty others constituted the foreign visitors, who were accompanied from Washington by Secretary Robeson and over 100 ladies and gentlemen. The visitors were met at the gate by Commodore Worden, Captain Samuel P. Carter, and a number of naval officers in full uniform. As they entered the grounds the marines under Major Fendall presented arms, the band played "Hail to the Chief," and a salute of cannon thundered a welcome to guests. The Legation was escorted through the Academy to Commodore Worden's residence, and afterwards witnessed a cadet drill, dress parade, artillery drill, etc. The *Herald* correspondent says that as the visitors entered the gate, Commodore Worden, in the midst of a roaring cannonade and the din of kettle drums and fifes, doffed his hat and received them. His doffing was succeeded by various other doffings, the Japanese gentlemen taking off their stove-pipes every half minute in the neatest and most polite manner possible. They looked quite at ease in their European dress, which, however, gave them a strange appearance.

THE Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the bill to advance Homer C. Blake one grade in the Navy by special act of Congress, not requiring the nomination or the recommendation of the President, report that for this there is no precedent, and that: First, no promotion should be made out of the regular course, except for extraordinary and successful heroism, leading to valuable results, and then only on the recommendation of the President of the United States. Second—No officer dismissed the service by sentence of Court-martial should be restored except on the ground that the sentence was unjust, on the recommendation of the President of the United States. Third—No officer dismissed the service or placed on the retired list on account of the habitual abuse of spirituous liquors should be restored to a position where he would be responsible for the property of the Government, the lives of officers and seamen and the honor of the American flag. Fourth—The law allowing the advancement of an officer thirty numbers in his own grade for extraordinary heroism during the war for the suppression of the rebellion should be repealed.

A COURT of inquiry is in session at the Navy Department on the case of Captain G. H. Preble, who was summarily dismissed from the Navy in 1864 by President Lincoln for allowing the Confederate privateer *Florida* to run by his squadron and the blockade into the port of Mobile. Although Captain Preble never had a trial, it was charged that he was guilty of gross negligence. How far he was negligent appears by the evidence submitted by Captain Maffit, who commanded the *Florida* at the time, and who now comes forward in a chivalrous and manly spirit to do justice to an officer of the service of which he was a long time a member. Captain Maffit testified that by a *ruse de guerre* in flying the British flag he got within hailing distance of Preble's squadron, and was promptly hailed; that thereupon he ran down the English flag and ran up the Confeder-

ate flag; that Preble immediately fired a shot across his bows, and in less than three minutes fired a broadside into the *Florida*, which tore the vessel all to pieces, killed one man and wounded eleven; and that Preble thoroughly and completely discharged his duty. All of the officers of the Navy who were there at the time fully sustain Captain Maffit, and command his conduct in coming forward and so testifying.

THE U. S. Steamer *Iroquois* (3d rate), which left New York at 1 P. M., March 18, has arrived at Gibraltar, Spain, having made the passage in 28 days. She is en route to Hong Kong via Suez Canal, and has to proceed on her way in a few days. The *Iroquois* made a splendid run on the first ten days out, but subsequently had calms and head winds for several days. The following is a list of her officers: Commander H. A. Adams, commanding; Lieutenant Commander Jno. H. Rowland, executive officer; Lieutenant Commander Henry C. Nields, navigating officer; Lieutenants R. E. Impey and Henry R. Baker; Masters H. L. Tremain, T. T. Wood and J. B. House; Ensigns G. B. Barber, J. C. Wilson, R. G. Davenport, J. A. H. Nickels, T. D. Bolles and M. E. Hall; Surgeon W. K. Van Reypen; Assistant Surgeon A. F. Magruder; Acting Assistant Surgeon Ira C. Whitehead; Paymaster Chas. A. McDaniel; First Assistant Engineers Jas. P. Sprague and Geo. W. Hall; Second Assistant Engineer Geo. S. Gates; Midshipman Samuel Seabury; Captain's Clerk Jno. Rosencrantz; Paymaster's Clerk Chas. N. Dimick; Boatswain Francis Butland; Gunner Jno. J. Walsh. The *Iroquois* carries a crew of 153 men and 24 marines, making 203 all told.

A PRIVATE letter from an officer on board the United States iron-clad *Terror*, written from Key West, April 21, contains the following: "I wrote you a day or two since that we were to sail from Havana for this port on the 18th. We did, and arrived here at sundown on the 19th. We were on fire all day of the 19th, and just got the fire fairly extinguished after we had taken a pilot at the entrance of this harbor. It was daylight, a smooth sea, and our convoy near by, all of which made the matter as favorable as could be. But had the fire occurred at night and with sea enough to oblige us to close our deck-ports, (and it does not take much of a sea for that), no one can say what would have happened. In that condition we are supplied with artificial air by blower engines, and with the ship filled with smoke, the blowers would have taken it up and fed us on smoke instead of air. You can see the result. The fire originated in the coal-bunker from the galley stove-pipe, which runs through the coal-bunker, surrounded by a white pine casing. The brilliant genius who originated this idea ought to be presented with a medal by the Humane Society, and the thanks of Congress. At one time, about noon, when I came below, the smoke was so dense that I got out a sheet and pillow-case in which I purposed to put some of my personal effects and my public funds in case we should be obliged to abandon the ship, and then lighted a cigar and went on deck and sat down in an arm-chair to watch the smoke pour out of the deck-lights. We had Rear-Admiral Inglefield (R. N.) on board, who came over with us to see how the ship behaved in a sea-way. He told me he took the chances of going down, but did not expect to be burnt up."

Of the *Terror*'s stay at Havana we have the following from that city under date of May 2. "The United States monitor *Terror*, convoyed by the *Wyoming*, and having on board Admiral Inglefield, of the British Navy, and United States Consul-General Torbert, left for Key West. The monitor has been in port ever since last November, and is greatly in need of repairs. Arriving here during the excitement consequent upon the shooting of the students, its presence has ever since inspired a feeling of security to Americans, resident and transient. The fact that we are now left without any vessel of war in port is a matter of anxiety to many Americans. The continual presence of some United States vessel of war is considered necessary for the tranquillity and security of Americans, and it is hoped that the Navy Department will endeavor to keep such a vessel here.

THE *Panama Star and Herald* of April 16 supplies another detail of a calamity already made known to our readers. "The steamship *Moselle*, which arrived at Aspinwall on the 17th inst. from Graytown, brings account of a frightful accident which occurred on the bar at the latter port, for the following particulars of which we are indebted to H. B. Whitmarsh, Esq., purser of the steamer: On the 12th inst. a sad accident occurred off Graytown, resulting in the death of six persons. The United States war steamer *Kansas*, Commander Hatfield, had arrived on the coast a few days previously with an expedition under Commander Crosman, to survey the country across to the Pacific, to see if it is practicable to cut a canal across there. They landed some thirty men at the mouth of the Colorado river, and had gone off up to Graytown for supplies, when, on the morning of the 12th, Commander Crosman, in crossing the bar in the ship's whale-boat, was capsized and drowned in the surf. The accident being seen from the ship, two other boats were sent to render assistance, both of which, however, were capsized, and an officer and four men drowned. Commander Hatfield will, for the present, take charge of the surveying expedition, handing over the command of the ship to Lieutenant-Commander White." The following additional items are by telegraph from Aspinwall: "The United States steamship *Kansas*, Commander Hatfield, with the Nicaragua Canal surveying expedition, arrived at Graytown on 3d inst. On the 12th, Commander Crosman, in command of the expedition, in coming over the bar in a whale-boat got capsized. Minute guns were fired from the vessel, but no aid could be given from shore. As the ship lay six miles away and out of sight, no one knew what they meant. The steam-launch had already been sent up to meet the steamship *Moselle* with cargo and a canoe with mails. The canoe arrived in time to save Paymaster Bemis and one of the crew, and to tow in the cutter with sixteen men. Others swam ashore. Three came in on an empty cask. Commander Crosman, Sailing-master Force and four seamen were drowned. Of them only the body

of one seaman was found. Number of officers and men saved, twenty-seven." The following are the names of the officers and men: Commander A. F. Croxman; Master Alfred Forre; Coxswain, Wm. Baker; ordinary seamen, Wm. Arkwright, Emanuel Bingfield, and James Eley.

We are permitted to publish the following extract from a private letter detailing the circumstances of the mishap. The writer is Master F. H. Howes of the *Kansas*, and writes under date of April 15:

"This is the fourth week since leaving Key West, and the surveying expedition is not yet entirely landed. After leaving here we went to the Colorado river and spent several days in attempting to land. There are no harbors on the coast and we have to anchor out at sea and send inside by our ship's boats through a very dangerous surf; after staying there several days, we returned to this place for information and assistance. It has been a sad return; for, on the morning after our arrival, our whale boat while crossing the bar broke her steering oar and capsized. She had in her Commander Croxman, commanding the expedition, Paymaster Bemis, and Midshipman Stevens with a crew of five men. Our first cutter was immediately sent in with Lieutenant Miller, Master Forre and Midshipman Winslow; she also capsized, and the gig under Master Briggs and Ensign Milligan did the same. Our boats were washed high up on the shore, the gig in several pieces, the other boats in good condition. To come to the sad part, Commander Croxman, Master Forre, and four men were drowned. The body of one seaman was recovered, the rest will probably never be found. The accident has thrown a deep gloom over the ship. The death of Forre has made a gap in our mess very difficult to fill. The very night before he was drowned he was on watch from 8 to 12, and I had been relieved and went on the poop and was talking to him most particularly about his father and mother. Twelve hours after he was no more. He was one of those contented fellows, with happy disposition, so well adapted to the navy. Miller and I have the sad duty to perform of writing to his father."

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Key West, Florida, says: "The U. S. ships *Worcester*, *Canandaigua*, *Wyoming*, and monitor *Terror*, were at Key West April 29. The *Wyoming* was under sailing orders and was to have left in a day or two for Matanzas, thence to Kingston, and finally to Aspinwall. A General Court-martial was in session for several days on board the U. S. monitor *Terror*, composed of the following officers: Captain Egbert Thompson, president; Lieutenant-Commanders C. D. Sigsbee, and R. P. Leary; Lieutenants G. A. Bicknell, W. Swift, and Andrew Dunlop, Jr.; Masters R. E. Corwady, and A. Morix. Lieutenant C. C. Todd, judge-advocate. The health of the fleet is good. An exciting naval boat race took place on the 27th instant between crews composed of officers on board the U. S. ships *Worcester* and *Canandaigua*. The novelty of the idea lent additional interest to the contest, and both crews trained and exercised with a will for several days preceding the race. The officers of the *Worcester* pulled in their captain's gig, while the *Canandaigua*'s selected one of their single-banked whale-boats, which, though new and untried, was thought suitable for the occasion. The course was two miles, straight. The race: both boats started well, and for the first twenty or thirty strokes the gig led slightly; soon, however, the whale boat shoved ahead, the crew pulling about forty strokes a minute, that of the *Worcester* being somewhat slower. This advantage gained was held and gradually increased till finally the *Canandaigua*'s boat shot past the home buoy forty-seven seconds ahead of her opponent, amid loud cheers from the people assembled along the banks to witness the race, and crews on board the several ships in the harbor. The following are the names of the participants: *Canandaigua*—Midshipman Marshall (stroke), Lieutenant Swift, Ensign Bixler, Midshipman Downes, Chief Engineer Albert, and Midshipman Night; Master Morix, coxswain. *Worcester*—Lieutenant Todd (stroke), Midshipman Ludlow, Ensign Bradbury, Lieutenant-Commander Sigsbee, Midshipman Dimick, and Lieutenant Burwell; Lieutenant Dunlop, coxswain. Another race is in hand between the same parties, which will probably come off in the course of a week."

THE British papers sometimes have entertaining remarks on American affairs as witness the following from the *Naval and Military Gazette*: Americans are usually said to have very bad teeth, which, it is alleged, fail them at an early age, owing to the tremendous rate at which they eat, and the general habit—especially prevalent among the ladies—of indulging in "sweets." But we were scarcely prepared to learn that matters have reached such a crisis that it is deemed advisable to take more stringent precautions to preserve the grinders of naval and military cadets than simply requiring that tooth-brushes shall form part of their kit on joining. It seems, however, according to the *New York Army and Navy Journal*, that a petition, signed by a large number of physicians in New York, has been presented to Congress, asking for the establishment of professorships of dental surgery both at the Military and Naval Academies. Considering that the petition was dated the 1st inst., it might be supposed that perhaps the New York dentists were trying to make "April fools" of the Government. Congress, however, appears to have seriously entertained the proposal, as the matter is said to have been referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

THE *Cronstadt Messenger* states that the Russian fleet in the Black Sea will be composed, this year, of 18 men-of-war, with 146 officers and 1,478 sailors. The flotilla of the Caspian Sea will comprise 24 vessels, with 85 officers, and 1,036 sailors. The fleet of the Pacific will have 29 vessels, with 131 officers, and 1,396 sailors. The total number of vessels taking part in the evolutions in home waters and cruising abroad will be 16 iron-clads and 164 steamers, with 1,315 officers and 17,784 sailors.

NAVY GAZETTE.

We are obliged to omit the Navy Gazette this week, in interruptions to the Washington mails having delayed our despatches.

THE GERMAN FLEET.

THE *Algemeine Zeitung* publishes some remarks, by an eminent officer of the French Navy, on the German fleet. "Nothing prevents the German Empire," he says, "from creating a powerful navy. Its coasts on the Baltic and the North Sea extend for a distance of 1,400 kilometres, and a canal sufficiently deep for ships of war will soon unite these seas, and make the difficult passage of the Sound and the Belt unnecessary. As for the mercantile marine, it is known to be superior in tonnage to the French; the number of sailors at the disposal of Germany is, therefore, sufficient to provide for a very considerable naval force. . . . The coast, too, is so protected by rocks and sandbanks that it presents very great obstacles to the attack of a hostile fleet, and when the works at Kiel, Memel, Pillau, and at the mouths of the Elbe and Weser are completed, it will require a very large number of small iron-clads to enable an enemy to effect a landing or any other hostile operation. It thus appears that Germany neither wants coasts, nor ports, nor seamen. What she wants is ships. She has only five iron-clads, with as many corvettes and a few smaller vessels; her iron-clads, the *König Wilhelm* especially, are very good, but the other vessels are almost useless." In regard to the torpedo vessels lately adopted by the German Admiralty, the officer observes:—"the small size of these vessels, their slight elevation above the surface of the water, and the impenetrability of their plates will make it possible for them to approach a fleet at anchor even in the day-time, if it does not keep an iron-clad ready with steam up to drive the aggressor back. At night their operations would, of course, be much easier, and it would be necessary to have a small fleet of cruisers to watch their movements. . . . There is nothing more dangerous than vessels lying deep in the water; artillery is almost powerless against them. This was strikingly shown in the war between Paraguay and Brazil, where rafts with big guns slung upon them did immense injury to the Brazilian fleet. All the Brazilians could see were the guns and their gunners, and it was found impossible to take aim at such small objects in the heat of a naval battle. . . . Three of the German torpedo vessels have already been constructed, and three more are now being built at Dantzig; and ten officers and 340 men, selected from the German Navy for their special qualifications, are to be employed exclusively in the management of this important branch of the service. We also had a torpedo school at Rochefort before the war, but economical considerations have now compelled us to abandon the work we then commenced. It seems to me that nothing can be more sensible and effective than the new organization of the German navy, and when it is complete, which will not take a very long time, Germany, though not a first-class naval power, will be in a position to deal hard blows at other nations with fleets of much greater pretensions; for the navies of England, France, Russia, and the United States have had to go through experiments, the fruits of which Germany is now reaping without any cost to herself."

BRITISH AUXILIARY OFFICERS.

THE *Naval and Military Gazette* thinks that it is both desirable and feasible to refuse commissions to all who are not experienced officers as well as country gentlemen. An argument in support of such a reform is to be found in the present state of the military rank question. Any large shopkeeper can now, by forcing the men in his employ into a Volunteer corps, obtain the rank of captain, major, or lieutenant-colonel, and the country is as much inundated with field officers who are not soldiers as is America. In the Militia, the case is nearly as bad, and the worst of it is that these individuals carry their military rank from the parade ground into social life, and flaunt their titles with an ostentation which cannot but wound the susceptibilities of officers of the regular Army. To-day, Captain Swordknot desires Lieutenant Bullion to inspect the rear rank. Three months hence the Captain at some Autumn Manoeuvres may find himself under the orders of Lieutenant Colonel Bullion of the Blankshire Volunteers. No wonder that professional pride has ceased to be very strong in the Army, and that off duty a regular officer is desirous of subduing into the private gentleman. We actually know one instance in which a bootmaker has caused his Volunteer rank to be inscribed over the door of his shop, a bootmaker's. What officer under such circumstances can value his military title? The evil is perpetuated by the provisions of the royal warrant which allows officers of the auxiliary forces to retire with the rank of his last commission, after a certain number of years' service. Indeed, now a military title is no guarantee whatever that its holder possesses any military experience. You meet Colonel Smith at, say, a public dinner. Formerly you would have been tolerably sure that he has been in the Army. Now it is quite another chance that he is a Colonel of militia or volunteers. Captain Sabretache has served in half-a-dozen campaigns, his breast is covered with medals, and a scar on his forehead shows where a Sepoy's tulmar struck him during the mutiny. He is on a visit to a country house, and at dinner is preceded by Major Fatsides of the militia, who being called Major, ought, thinks the hostess in her innocence, to go down before a mere captain. It may be said that a soldier ought to be above being vexed by such a trifles, but, after all, life is made up of trifles. Viewed philosophically, the ribbon of the garter is but a piece of blue silk, the Victoria cross a lump of metal of no intrinsic value. Where all the world is influenced by trifles, the soldier cannot be expected to be wiser than his neighbors, and is annoyed at seeing a man, who as a soldier is his inferior, regarded on account of pseudo military rank, as his superior. It is as if a squire had his eye wiped, to use a sporting phrase, on his own grounds by a poacher.

COLONEL D. D. MORRISON, of Illinois, has forwarded to Jefferson Davis the original commission of the latter as colonel in the U. S. Army, signed by Andrew Jackson, President, and Lewis Cass, Secretary of State. The

document came into the possession of the Illinois troops after the capture of Jackson, Miss., and was returned to Davis, accompanied by a friendly letter from Colonel Morrison, his old companion in the Mexican war.

GETTYSBURG.

BY EDMUND C. STEDMAN.

WAVE, wave your glorious battle-flags, brave soldiers of the North, And, from the field your arms have won, to-day go proudly forth! For now, O comrades dear and dear—from whom no ill could part, Through the long years of hopes and fears, the nation's constant heart—

Men who have driven so oft the foe, so oft have striven in vain, Yet ever in the perilous hour have crossed his path again! At last we have our hearts' desire, from whom we met have wrung A victory that round the world shall long be told and sung! It was the memory of the past that bore us through the fray, That gave the grand old Army strength to conquer on this day!

O now forget how dark and red Virginia's rivers flow, The Rappahannock's tangled wilds, the glory and the woe; The fever-hung encampments, where our dying know full sore How sweet the north-wind to the cheek it soon shall cool no more; The fields we fought, and gained, and lost—the lowland sun and rain!

That wasted us, that bleached the bones of our unburied slain! There was no lack of foes to meet, of deaths to die no lack, And all the hawks of heaven learned to follow on our track: But thenceforth, hovering southward, their flight shall mark afar The paths of you retreating hosts that shun the northern star.

At night, before the closing fray, when all the front was still, We lay in bivouac along the cannon-crested hill. Ours was the dauntless Second Corps; and many a soldier knew How sped the fight, and sternly thought of what was yet to do, Guarding the centre there, we lay, and talked of bated breath Of Buford's stand beyond the town, of gallant Reynolds' death, Of cruel retreats through pent-up streets by murderous volleys swept—

How well the Stone, the Iron Brigades their bloody outposts kept: 'Twas for the Union, for the Flag, they perished, heroes all, And we swore to conquer in the end, or even like them to fall.

And passed from mouth to mouth the tale of that grim day just done.

The fight by Round Top's craggy spur—of all the deadliest one; It saved the left; but on the right they pressed us back too well, And like a field in spring the ground was ploughed with shot and shell.

There was the ancient grave-yard, its hummocks crushed and red, And there, between them, side by side, the wounded and the dead: The mangled corpses fallen above—the peaceful dead below, Laid in their graves, to slumber here, a score of years ago; It seemed their waking, wandering shades were asking of our slain,

What brought such hideous tumult now where they so still had lain!

Bright rose the sun of Gettysburg that morrow morning tide, And call of trumpet and roll of drum from height to height replied. Hark! from the East already goes up the rattling din; The Twelfth Corps, winning back their ground, right well the day begin!

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In writing for Terms a favor will be conferred in mentioning that you saw this in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

A MAN representing himself as a lieutenant in Troop D, Third Cavalry, succeeded, by reporting that Colonel Guy V. Henry, commanding that troop, was in great distress, in obtaining a considerable sum of money from Mrs. Wm. Henry, the mother of that officer. He gave his name as "Frank Foster," and was evidently familiar with Colonel Henry and Fort D. A. Russell in Wyoming, where the Colonel is stationed, and had the bearing of a man trained as a soldier. He is about five feet ten or eleven inches high, of slight figure, broad shoulders, military bearing, deeply marked with small pox; wore a light gray suit, high round-crowned felt hat, and had a glib tongue, with a slight lisp. His hair was close cropped. That he had been at Fort Russell, and was intimately acquainted with Colonel Henry's affairs his conversation abundantly proved. We warn the public against the fellow, and hope whoever reads this paragraph will assist, if possible, in bringing him to justice.

THE Herald, with the singular success which is so often the reward of apparently hopeless enterprises, has at last learned that the famous explorer, Dr. Livingstone, has been heard of in the company of its correspondent sent to find him. Of all the enterprises of that lively journal, probably none was so bizarre as this. We doubt if any newspaper man not educated in the Herald school would ever have thought of such an undertaking, and we cheerfully join in the numerous congratulations our contemporary is receiving from those who admire its success.

C OLONEL H. B. CARRINGTON, U. S. Army (retired), Professor of Military Science and Engineering, on duty at Wabash College, Indiana, has completed, through voluntary contributions from citizens and the Army, the first building in connection with the Polytechnic Department of Wabash College, founded in connection with his military chair. Colonel C. is now on a visit to New York, Boston, and Providence, visiting public works, etc.

THE President has sent the following nominations to the Senate: William M. Kilgour, to be second Lieutenant of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, and Second Lieutenant David Robinson, to be first Lieutenant of the Seventh Infantry.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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NAVY BOATS.

THE death of Commander CROSMAN, and of five of those who went to his rescue, following other though not immediately recent disasters of a like kind, is an occurrence which may well turn our attention to the boats with which our Navy is supplied. As will be seen from the letter we publish elsewhere, his loss was directly caused by the breaking of the steering oar in the midst of a heavy surf. The boat is not altogether responsible for it. But our boats are responsible for other mishaps, and it is well to look at them and see if they cannot be improved. Our vessels are furnished with boats which are fine looking, sharp, and fast-pulling; when this is said, it is all that there is to advance in their favor. In the least seaway our boats are wet, and cannot carry sail with safety in anything like a breeze. A fair load of stores puts them so down in the water that for carrying purposes they are very poor, except in a perfectly smooth harbor, and their use in a surf is almost out of the question.

Admiral BELL and eleven men were drowned in crossing the bar off Osaka, Japan, for the want of a proper boat, though had he used a steering-oar he and his crew might have escaped disaster. But how much more effective is a steering-oar used in a whale-boat than in an ordinary man-of-war cutter. Many of our ships are supplied with a boat called a whale-boat, probably from the fact of its having a sharp stern. With this the similarity ends. It is not a whale-boat, and is of no more use in a seaway or surf than any other cutter, if it is of so much use. Unlike the boats used by whalers, they are heavy, they are double-banked, and have their clumsy keel running the entire length of the boat.

Our naval constructors have little, if any experience in the use of a boat, and know about as much of the action of a boat in a surf as a western farmer. They congratulate themselves when they hear of their boats winning races in foreign harbors; we wonder if they take to themselves any blame when they read of the drowning of a half-dozen officers and men because they are obliged to depend upon a boat entirely unfit for the surf? The boat used by whalers is light and cheap compared with Navy built cutters, and they do not hesitate to lower them in a heavy sea. We recall the declaration of the captain of a whale-ship that his boats would live in any weather his ship would. Give each of our vessels such a boat, use a steering oar, and the chances of officers and men losing their lives by capsizing would be very much lessened.

While on this subject, let us say a word in regard to life-preservers. Instead of the few usually stowed in the yeoman's store-room or other out-of-the-way place, there should be enough for every soul on board stored in chests, placed while at sea, two under the forecastle, and two on the poop or quarter-deck, or perhaps slung under the bridge. While in port these chests could easily be put below. If the ill-fated *Oneida* had been so provided, each one of her crew would have had a life-preserver at hand, and the lives of most of the one hundred and twenty men drowned might have been saved. A naval officer who has been several times over the spot where she was lost assures us that out of the number drowned a large per centage would have kept

afloat with an ordinary cork life-preserver till the assistance arrived from Yokohama. The arrangements in the Navy for saving life from drowning are not good, and by many officers very much neglected. This is not the fault of those who go to sea in our ships, but of those who fit them out, and have the authority to provide what is so much required.

The British service is just now in mourning over an occurrence very like that which caused us the loss of Commander CROSMAN. The disaster occurred on the *Ariadne* while at sea, and the *Naval and Military Gazette* gives the following account of the mishap:

Running before a moderate gale off the coast of Portugal, whilst setting the maintop-gallant-sail, an ordinary seaman fell overboard from the topmast cross-trees. It does not appear whether he rose to the surface again after falling, but as the ship passed swiftly away, and the following sea quickly intervened, he may or may not have risen without his head being seen. However that may be, the ship was quickly rounded to, sail reduced, and the lee-quarter boat speedily lowered in charge of sub-lieutenants Jukes and Talbot. Not a moment was to be lost; and we can well believe that every officer, man, and boy strained every nerve and every muscle that not a moment should be lost. As the boat progresses to windward, the ship drifts to leeward, and before long anxiety as to the fallen man gives place to anxiety as to the boat. Steam is got up, the screw lowered, sail furled, and in due time the ship proceeds in quest of the boat, happily succeeding in overtaking her. The cutter was found running before the sea, and making towards the ship. The time came when it was necessary to turn the boat round head to sea, so as to proceed alongside the ship. This ticklish evolution was unsuccessful, the sea striking the boat while in the act of turning, and swamping it. Already hours of laborious exertion had partially exhausted the boat's crew, who had now to battle with breaking waves, wresting them from their hold on the gunwales, and necessitating strong surviving powers to rejoin the swamped boat. To add to their difficulties, the boat was overturned by another wave, leaving nothing but the keel for holding on to. In this way both officers and several of the crew were washed away, never to return. Meanwhile, their shipmates were within a few hundred yards, almost helpless spectators of this fearful struggle. True, another cutter remained, and this it was attempted to lower. Unhappily, the after-fall fouled, the boat was dashed to pieces against the rolling ship, and a second crew was precipitated into the water. By speedy, energetic, and heroic exertions, all but one of this crew were recovered. Nothing now remained but to place the *Ariadne* in a position to drift bodily over the swamped boat, in hope of picking up the drowning men in passing. This was accordingly done, and the survivors were, at the end of four hours, released from their perilous position. Those who have been in like case can scarcely read the painful story with dry eyes, told by Captain CARPENTER, though it be an unvarnished tale in an official letter. The lesson that may be truly derived from the *Ariadne's* sad loss, are those affecting the boats. Why should a ship of war not carry life-boats? Why should not her quarter-boats be fitted with movable air tubes, to be always placed in them when the head ropes are attached to these boats for sea? Why, in this enlightened year of grace, should officers be placed in the harrowing position of Captain CARPENTER, without a single safe boat to pick up a man who falls overboard in a moderate gale? Why should it be open to question at all that the *Ariadne's* boat ought or ought not to have been lowered? No more painful decision can be placed before an officer than the question, shall the man overboard be drowned, or shall a boat's crew be risked in the effort to save him? Yet we have known a captain be risked in the importunities of a volunteer boat's crew in like case, and let two men perish before the eyes of a whole ship's company, unable to extend a saving hand. In this very case, after one boat was swamped and the second dashed to pieces, the *Ariadne*, with four hundred men on board, had not a trustworthy boat left. This is all the more inexcusable that very simple means exist for rendering every ship of war's boat safe from swamping. The need of such life saving apparatus is keenly felt afloat, but, for some unexplained cause, is not felt at Whitehall.

We trust that the circumstances which have brought this question so prominently and so sadly forward will be deemed a sufficient cause for a re-examination of it, and if the safety of our seamen can be increased by altering our boats it should be done.

THE meetings at Cleveland add fresh evidence to the strong bond of feeling which exists between the members of the armies which dispersed so grandly seven years ago, and prove again the value of the societies which afford an opportunity for the expression of that feeling. In attendance, both as regards members and distinction, and in importance of proceedings, these societies of a few years' standing already rival the best of the old societies of the country. The meeting this year, favored by fortunate weather, was from the opening to the close bright as well as imposing, and Cleveland was crowded with members and with those who were anxious to see so many famous men in procession. On Tuesday morning the Society of the Army of the Potomac formed in column, with Generals Hooker, Burnside, Meade, and others in carriages, and marched to Cass Hall, where General Hooker, President of the Society, took the chair, and after prayer by Chaplain William Ernshaw, the Society was welcomed by Mayor Pelton. General Stewart L. Woodford delivered the address, Mr. Stedman the fine poem we republish on another page, and then Burnside, Meade, Sheridan, Custer, Fairchild, Wright, Robinson, Sharpe, Devine, and Keifer responded to the calls made upon them. President Grant could not be present, but sent a letter, which was enthusiastically received. For the coming year New Haven, Ct., was fixed upon as the place of meeting, and the following officers were elected: President, General A. E. Burnside; Recording Secretary, General G. H. Sharpe; Corresponding Secretary, Colonel W. C. Church; Treasurer, General Henry E. Davis, Jr.

A resolution was adopted asking Congress to amend the act relative to national cemeteries so that the volunteers of the war may have the privilege of resting by their comrades.

On Wednesday the Society of the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac had a meeting, with General Sheridan, its President, in the chair. The Grand Army of the Republic also held its national encampment, General Burnside commander-in-chief. We go to press too early to present this week proper reports of these meetings or of the addresses at the Society of the Army of the Potomac meeting.

At Philadelphia the eighth anniversary of the Third Army Corps Union was held on Saturday. General Graham was elected President, Colonel McMichael Vice-President, and Colonel Willing Secretary. The Philadelphians then laid themselves out to entertain their guests, and in the evening gave them a banquet at Guy's hotel.

Among those present were Generals George G. Meade, Robert Patterson, Charles M. Prevost, and E. R. Biles of Philadelphia; General Heintzelman of New York; Generals Scovell, Trott, Ransing, Ramsey, and Corse of New Jersey; Colonels Tremain, Morgan, Bullard, and Burns of New York; Major and Captain Corney, Captains Stewart, Demarest, Cooper, Beam, Lee of Camden, Steele, Gillen; Major Otis of New York; Colonel Bonaffon, Captain Kennedy, Captain Fassett of New York, Colonel James Forney, and Colonel Tobias. The toasts were as follows:

The first was: "The President of the United States," which was responded to by three hearty cheers.

The next—"The Armed Hosts of Loyalty," which was appropriately responded to by General Robert Patterson, who was frequently interrupted by applause.

"The Army of the Potomac," was the third toast, to which a fitting response was made by Major-General George G. Meade, U. S. Army.

"The Nation's Champions at Home" was responded to by Hon. Morton McMichael.

"The Memory of our Dead" was feelingly responded to by General Russling, of Trenton, N. J.

"The Chroniclers of our Varying Fortunes" was the next sentiment, and Francis W. Wells was called upon to reply.

"The Third Corps—then and now," was the last toast of the evening, and the response of Colonel Manning, of the New York bar, was a masterly effort.

The toasts being over, the fun of the evening commenced, and for an hour or two the time was most pleasantly passed.

SOME papers filed in the War Department and referring to the Court-martial of General D. C. BUELL, during the war, having disappeared, the House Military Committee are investigating the case with closed doors. For this they receive the obtrusions of the daily press, but we must commend their action. No national or political question depends upon the case, which involves only matters of personal conduct and the details of departmental management. The Committee does well to keep the reputations of the Government officers out of reach of the mud-throwing of a political campaign, and the hot judgments of partisan papers, which seize upon half finished evidence to calumniate those who deserve fair play at the hands of all. The loss of the papers, if they are really lost, may be a grave matter, and we hope the Committee may be able to trace them up. Washington is the depository of priceless documents, which the Government can publish at a small cost, and which ought to be at once removed from the chance of loss. There can be little in the papers of a civil war which is improper for publication, and we should like to see a small annual appropriation devoted to the preservation of the vast stores of historical information laid up in Washington. The publication of these papers would enlighten parties, consolidate reputations, and strike from the current talk of the age a multitude of slanders and misconceptions.

BY reference to another column, it will be seen that the majority of the House Military Committee, in the first point of their report on the French Arms Sales, sustain the views expressed by this journal. They declare that in their opinion a nation has a right to sell arms to nations even when engaged in war; and in taking this ground, the majority at once sweep away all political consequences of the charge against the Government. If the House gives any decided assent to this proposition, it will form a new and important phase of the neutrality problem. The minority report leaves this question open, but does not dissent from it, and the unfavorable tone and construction of the report is too slight to make it seriously different from that of the ma-

jority. All charges against officers and departments are disproved, except that the minority charge the War Department with an improper construction of the law of 1868. Now that this disagreeable business is over, we may fairly congratulate the country upon the way its Army has gone through this ordeal. Under a normal condition of things, we should have no especial feeling of gladness in knowing that the military service is not corrupt; it is a matter of course that it should be honorable. But when some of the most prominent and purest men in the country rise with charges against it, we feel that there must be some foundation for accusations sustained by such men. We are glad that the best of the Government's accusers are mistaken, and sorry that the worst of them should have given themselves to such reckless calumnia of the purest branch of the national service.

AMONG the Army news will be found an account of the new steam dredge designed by the Engineer Corps for use on the Mississippi river. We detailed, a few months ago, some of the difficulties peculiar to the work of clearing out this river, and also some of the means used to meet them. It will be seen that the present boat is the latest effort of the engineer officers to carry the screw method to a perfect success. The only serious difficulty, in a mechanical point of view, has been the breaking of the screw on the tough mud lumps of the river bottom. This is overcome by the use of a made-up screw, consisting of six replaceable blades. We hope that the General McAllister will be all its designers look for.

WE have received from Messrs. LOGAN & KANE, attorneys for Chaplain KANE, a reply to the account of the unhappy difficulty between that gentleman and Lieutenant THOMAS, published in last week's JOURNAL. They say that the Secretary of the Navy did blame the Lieutenant, in the following words: "The Department regrets to say that Chaplain KANE has cause of complaint on the occasion particularly referred to, and also on former occasions." The charge that the Chaplain received a commission on the purchase money of the organ is explained by the testimony of Mr. SLADE, the organ-maker, and also of the Rev. T. D. WILLIAMS, who swear that the Chaplain subscribed \$75 (the amount of his commission) to the purchase of the instrument. These charges succeeded in preventing the Senate's confirmation of Chaplain KANE's promotion, as at the time his case was before the Naval Committee he was dangerously sick, and did not know that the charges against him were before the committee. Finally, a positive denial is made to the assertion that the Lieutenant was ever referred to in the Chaplain's sermons.

THE long-continued quarrel in the Quartermaster's Department about rank has been settled in the House Military Committee by the adoption of a compromise proposition, which gives the officers who were "jumped" by the appointments made by President JOHNSON the grades they would have received had the promotions been made according to seniority, but which provides that no officers shall be disturbed in their present rank by the action of the bill proposed. The effect of this being to place the officers to be promoted at the foot of the list in their new grades, instead of giving them the relative rank which they claim as their due. This compromise is understood to have emanated from the INGALLS party, and to have been suggested by its lawyer, the Hon. Mr. GOOCH, of Massachusetts. It is not satisfactory to the SAXTON party, which proposes, it is understood, to attack it in the House. The Committee will submit a written report on this bill.

A CORRESPONDENT, whose letter will be found in its proper place, attacks some expressions we used in a paragraph upon the influence of Judge MCKEAN'S court in Salt Lake City, the ground being that illegal acts cannot have a good effect. Our correspondent forgets that Judge MCKEAN'S acts were legal until the proper authority pronounced against them. Through all the past year, embodying the most serious portion of our struggle with polygamy

and Mormon despotism, they were of legal force and had influence as legal acts. We had of course no intention of identifying the garrison at Camp Douglass morally or any other way with the judge, except as it is and always has been identified with whatever the United States Government saw fit to do in Utah.

MR. SAVILLE, chief clerk of the Treasury Department, recently devoted some hours to the elucidation of the mysteries of Treasury bookkeeping, for the benefit of the French Arms Investigating Committee. The result was not very satisfactory; even General LOGAN, who has had practical experience as a bookkeeper, being forced to confess his incapacity to comprehend the mysteries hidden under the Treasury distinctions between permanent, indefinite, specific, and other appropriations, and the occult meaning involved in the terms "covering in," "repay covering warrant," "revenue covering warrant," "miscellaneous revenue covering warrant," and the like. In spite of the instruction received from Mr. SAVILLE, some, if not all, of the committee wandered hopelessly in a labyrinth of these terms, coming out precisely where they started, which was from the assertion that the Secretary of War had, in addition to the amount of the annual Congressional appropriation, expended the eight millions of dollars derived from the sale of arms during the year. The Secretary corrects this impression in the following letter to Mr. DAWES, which makes the matter clear, and sets at rest the slanderous charges brought against the War Department:

WAR DEPARTMENT, April 29.
DEAR SIR: I send herewith, in accordance with your verbal request of to-day, a statement in regard to the amounts received and disbursed by this Department on account of the appropriation for ordnance, ordnance stores, etc., for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1871. Hon. Mr. BECK, in his speech in the House of Representatives, on Saturday last, remarks: "During the last fiscal year, in defiance of that law (act of July 12, 1870), the War Department, as is shown by the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, expended \$8,000,000 in excess of the appropriations, and sold arms to the French to make good the deficiency; and the proceeds of these arms are now deposited in the Treasury to the credit of that Department, subject to be drawn out by it." Mr. BECK is in error at all points. In the first place, the War Department did not spend any sum in excess of appropriations made by law, and therefore it had no deficiency to make good. In the second place, it did not sell arms to make good the deficiency. In the third place, when ordnance and ordnance stores, etc., are sold, the proceeds must be paid into the Treasury to the credit of the appropriation made specifically for ordnance, ordnance stores, etc., and could not be drawn except for expenses for ordnance, ordnance stores, etc., alone. Therefore, even if there were a deficiency or overexpenditure on other accounts, the money to the credit of ordnance stores, etc., could not by any possibility, under existing laws, be used to make it good, and this rule applies to all appropriations. All money must be used for the specific purpose for which it is appropriated and no other. In the fourth place, the proceeds of the sales referred to are not now deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the War Department, subject to be drawn out by it, as stated by Mr. BECK; but, on the contrary, they were on the 24th of October, 1871, carried to the surplus fund by warrant No. 119—"copy herewith"—and can no more be drawn upon by the War Department than if the money was not in existence. It stands no longer to the credit of the War Department, but has gone into the general fund of the Treasury, subject to the action of Congress alone. Lastly, if any one supposed that either previous to the fiscal year 1870-71, or thereafter, any money had been improperly expended by the War Department in excess of appropriations, let the matter be investigated. There was, on the 30th of June, 1870, to the credit of the appropriation for ordnance, ordnance stores, etc., \$10,618,854 48; drawn out by requisition previous to the taking effect of the act of July 12, 1870, during fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, \$139,154 00, leaving \$10,479,700 42 paid into the Treasury to the credit of appropriations for ordnance, etc., during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871. On account of proceeds of sales, etc., \$8,235,229 17; total to date of said appropriation June 30, 1871, \$18,714,929 59; covered into Treasury from appropriation for ordnance, etc., per surplus warrant No. 119 (copy inclosed), \$18,714,929 59. It may be proper to add that no specific appropriation for ordnance stores, etc., was made in the annual appropriation for year ending June 30, 1871. The inclosed copy of warrant No. 119, surplus fund, includes all appropriations for the Ordnance Department from which money was covered into the surplus fund.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. W. BELKNAP, Secretary of War.
To Hon. Henry L. Daws.

BY reference to our Army intelligence it will be seen that General ORD, commanding the Department of the Platte, has ordered the introduction of regular target practice in his department. Weekly practice, three rounds to the man, and a strict attendance of all the men in camp form the system, which is in accordance with that adopted by the War Department May 30, 1862. Ten years have elapsed since the publication of that order, and we doubt if it has ever been carried into effect, at least for any useful length of time. General ORD sets a good example in leading off in this important matter.

A VAGUE rumor is reported from London to the effect that the United States are to lease some of the Koore or Kurile Islands, which extend from Japan to Kamtschatka. We believe it has been a settled opinion of many successive administrations that this country ought to secure to itself proper harbors in certain seas, but we doubt if the Government has cast its eye upon the Kuriles.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

LINEAL PROMOTION FOR SUBALTERNS.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: The advocates of "lineal" as against "regimental" promotion for subalterns in the Army, were not so ignorantly sanguine as to suppose that so radical a change could be effected or proposed without opposition, and they anticipated it from at least three classes of officers: 1. From subalterns who, by chance and good fortune, were high, regimentally, but low lineally. 2. From officers who would choose to retain a low grade in a white regiment, rather than take a higher grade in a black regiment; and 3. From officers who, because of natural inclination or habit, have adopted *quieta non moveare* as their motto.

These anticipations have been realized, and as the petitioners impugn no man's motive, they choose not to "call names" and become frantic, but to let the question stand upon its merits. The writer hereof has authority to speak for one of the class whom "Tex" so gallantly champions in his "reason 7"; i. e., for one who was appointed from the Volunteers in 1866; he was a colonel of volunteers, has commanded a regiment in quite a number of battles, a brigade in several engagements, has during his service in the regular Army passed through cholera, Indian scouts innumerable, a winter campaign under circumstances exceptionally severe, and "now, having lived to attain a little rank"—alas how cruelly true that "little!"—he finds, what? Why, that officers who were beardless lads, "safe at school on the Hudson during the bloody days of the war," are, by their good fortune in getting assigned to regiments in which promotion has been rapid, already enjoying captaincies a score of years before he can hope for that position under the present system of promotion, or are occupying such positions as first lieutenants that they may reasonably expect to be captains at least a half a score of years before him. Were his case a peculiarly severe one, I think that he would refrain from the immodesty of asking Congress to benefit him at the expense of others; but by a careful study of the *Army Register* he has learned that his is not a peculiar case in its essential characteristics, but that a very large proportion of the subalterns of the Army are ranked by those whom they formerly ranked.

To return to our "Tex." The first and fourth reasons urged against the change are essentially identical, and both simply beg the question. It is not denied by the petitioners that "the lieutenants of a regiment are entitled to the promotions in it" under the existing system; the whole force of the petition is directed against the injustice of the present system, and toward the passage of a law of promotions that shall be just and equal. The third reason is anticipated in the position and shown to be invalid. A subaltern appointed to a regiment under the existing system inherits the prejudices, the traditions, and the history of that regiment, but, as our Army serves, he learns nothing of another organization; the petitioners would have him inherit the spirit, the history, the honors, of the whole arm of the service, and are confident that the *esprit de corps* thus produced would be as much superior to, and more desirable and beneficial than that of a single regiment, as is the whole arm of the service greater than one of its administrative units. Nor are they compelled to base this argument upon a mere hypothesis; within the knowledge of all of them, and within the experience of many of them this principle has been illustrated and triumphantly sustained.

Who that had the honor of serving in one of the great Army corps during the recent war ever refers to his regiment except for the sake of identification, or for some similar purpose? while, e. g., the "Trefoil" whether red, white, or blue, can rally an army, and each man who can rightfully wear its well-known badge, has a score of thousand sworn comrades.

If promotion were lineal as many of the vacancies occasioned by active service would be filled by officers doing duty at the front as under the existing system. The "mustering" and "soft-duty" men exist in all regiments, and it is difficult to see why it is harder to lose life or limb for the benefit of a subordinate of that class in another regiment than for one in one's own, or harder to have him take the bloody shoes (without stepping into the bloody tracks, however) just in front of you when not of "ours," than when that close corporation possessive attaches to his name. The "soft-duty" gentry will exist so long as uncles can be Senators, attractive female acquaintance can be persuasive with susceptible commanders, and other like streams of influence can be made to flow through channels that are not "proper;" but if, as seems to be the fact, the offence of Lieutenant Soft Duty consists chiefly in his taking positions, and enjoying emoluments which relatively with other officers he has not earned, it becomes a serious and practical question whether the subaltern who, by good luck gets a captaincy after two or three years of service, and proceeds to exercise his authority over other subalterns who have served as such eight or ten years, is not the head of the "soft-duty" family, and whether the system (for it is remembered that the system of promotion, and not officers who have profited by it, is attacked) under which such anomalies not only may exist, but are shown to have existed in seven-eighths of the promotions during four years, is not an organized injustice.

Regarding the fifth reason, it must be said that the proposed change would "set back" no one, but would simply set forward a large number of officers who have for years been compelled to make their hard-earned epaulettes the steps upon which their juniors might pass over their heads.

Reason sixth is calculated to convey an erroneous impression, as one would infer from it that promotion would, by the operation of the desired law, be stayed.

The petitioners desire only that promotion should accrue to those officers to whom it of right belongs, and whether the "heart burning and bitterness of soul" of the disappointed subalterns who, by good fortune, are well off regimentally, but low lineally, are more just, or entitled to more weight than the hope deferred of officers less fortunately placed regimentally, but higher lineally, and whether, under the desired law, the former would have more just cause to leave the service than have the latter under the present system. Let the Army and those with whom rests the cure for this heavy evil decide.

Reason seventh has been already referred to; in addition it may be said that:

Ex-volunteers, appointed to the Army in 1866, were more largely represented than any other class of officers in the meeting which inaugurated the movement, though all classes of officers were represented. The incidental circumstance that a graduate of West Point acted as Secretary can hardly be deemed a weighty argument either way—though it was deemed worthy of mention by "Tex."

As the claims of ex-volunteers are accorded so high a place it is not inappropriate to say that the "hoary lieutenant" who graduated in 1866, had, before his appointment to West Point, served as a volunteer, and taken an honorable part in one of the most fiercely contested battles of the late war.

As to the eighth and last reason, it need only be said that the plan proposed provides a means of avoiding increased expense to the Government, and if there is in the service an officer so devoid of a soldier's ambition that he would not accept promotion now, rather than by and by, because of a slight expense, when, too, the increased pay of the higher grade would reimburse him within a few months, then let that officer decline his promotion until he can get it within his own regiment, or, if he chooses, within his own company. "Tex" is in error when he says that "artillery officers are compared with infantry officers." Each arm is compiled by itself, and, moreover, the showing is far within the facts, inasmuch as, in giving the number of officers passed over by any officer in his promotion to a captaincy, none were included whose appointments as first lieutenants were of the same date with the newly made captains; those only were included whose appointments antedated his.

I am compelled to join issue with "Tex" again upon the matter presented in his final sentence. The question is, shall a system of promotion, which leaves promotion to chance and ignores seniority, be retained for subalterns of the line of the army, when a just and equal system is applied to all of the remainder of the armed force of the nation? If yes, then let it be applied to the separate ships of the Navy, to two or three officers of the engineers, ordnance or other staff corps, who may be serving near each other, and to all grades of the line. Some few would be disappointed should the desired law pass, but each would receive promotion *exactly* in his proper turn and "right wrongs no one." EX-VOL.

JUSTICE IN UTAH.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: Will you allow me to submit to you and to your readers some remarks suggested by your editorial of the 20th of April last, about the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States concerning matters in Utah.

After stating what is the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court, you say: "But the work of Judge McLean is by no means valueless. It is under his direction that courts have been opened (illegally please notice), juries assembled (illegally also), and the guilty sought out. His acts are now nullified, but their influence has been great, and that cannot be removed by any legal decision." Now, sir, if such a series of illegalities, carried on during a whole year in the mal-administration of justice, can exert any influence, can it be otherwise than against the Government which is responsible for it, unless all respect for legality is obliterated from the conscience of the people?

Further you say: "For the first time in the history of Utah, the majesty of the United States has been exhibited." Why, sir! have you so paltry an idea of the majesty of the United States, as to consider it as fairly exhibited in the very things which are everywhere through the civilized world pronounced a disgrace for any Government—that is, the desecration of justice, and the use of judicial power to put the rights, the property, and even the lives of citizens at the mercy of unscrupulous politicians and greedy speculators?

I am no friend of Mormonism, sir; but I am a friend of fair play, and a law-abiding citizen, and as such, if Mormons are guilty of any crime or public offence, I want to have them prosecuted and punished like other people through the operation of law, and not in violation of it. So, I cannot see that Judge McLean has done anything to impress that people with "the dignity of a court and of a judge," quite the reverse. The only thing in all this which will really exhibit the majesty of the United States and the dignity of the judiciary, is, I believe, the decision of the Supreme Court, which shows that there is redress in the land for injustice and oppression, and a tribunal which rises above political influences and petty intrigues to insure the true administration of justice and vindicate the supremacy of the law.

But to come nearer home, the concluding sentence of your article is: "In all his acts, Justice McLean has had the active aid of the garrison at Camp Douglas, the principal work of that garrison having been to give its moral and physical support to the judiciary of the United States." As to the fact itself, the garrison did certainly obey the orders and fulfilled its duty in this as in any other matter; but as to what seems to me the evident intention on your part to identify it *morally* with the acts of Judge McLean, allow me to assure you that you are mistaken. With one exception there is a very

good reason to believe that our officers found nothing particularly congenial in the duty of enforcing *illegal* proceedings, at the bidding of such an authority as Judge McLean, and doing service as jailers over citizens *illegally* arrested and detained, and this reason is that they are true soldiers and gentlemen, and no *politicians*.

A SUBSCRIBER.

MIDSHIPMAN'S JOURNAL.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: Will some one tell us, why it is that so much of a midshipman's time has to be occupied by copying the ship's log? for this is the sum total of their journal. If it is of much benefit, what a valuable corps our navigation works will become! Raking among the cobwebs and traditions of antiquity, we find that this custom originated when midshipmen were appointed, at a very early age, directly on board men-of-war, without any preliminary education; and this task was imposed merely for the practice of penmanship; a good enough plan in its way, but entirely unnecessary now, when our midshipmen graduate from one of the finest institutions in the world.

In this advanced age would it not be preferable to devote the time wasted in copying such events as, "At 3:50 spread mess things" and "at 6 got up clotheslines" in studying torpedoes or glancing at Holly on Ordnance and Armor.

Probably our superiors enforce this, as they do many other things, because it was so when they were midshipmen. They seem to forget that since then iron-clads, heavy ordnance, torpedoes, etc., have completely changed the aspect of nautical affairs, and that these, together with the Naval Academy, have altered the course that should be pursued toward midshipmen at sea. Give us something proper for the decade, and graduates of years of discretion, and not what little boys twelve or fourteen years of age did thirty or forty years ago, in order to learn writing.

A MIDSHIPMAN.

INTERESTING LEGAL DECISIONS.

THE following is a digest of decisions relating to military and naval claims made by the Court of Claims and published in the 5th column of its reports. The digest is from the *American Jurist*.

1. A quartermaster in the regular Army was dismissed the service by order of the President. The President afterward revoked the order, the vacancy occasioned by such dismissal having been filled before the revocation, and the number of quartermasters being limited by law: Held, that the quartermaster could not recover pay between the date of the order of dismissal and its revocation, another having been paid meanwhile. (Montgomery v. United States, 5 C. Cl. 93.)

2. Disbursing officer of high character, who carried money in the way such officers generally carry it on similar occasions, and lost it, amid circumstances utterly free from suspicion, and who was most diligent in seeking to recover it, held entitled to decree relieving him from responsibility under act of May 9, 1866. (Whittlesey v. United States, 5 C. Cl. 453.)

3. Degree of care and diligence requisito in such cases considered, and rule applied as between any prudent man and his agent. (Malone v. United States, 5 C. Cl. 486.)

4. A soldier who, having deserted from the Army, returns and surrenders himself as a deserter, is returned to duty without trial, on condition he made good the time lost by his desertion, which he does, and then receives an honorable discharge, does not forfeit his bounty, and is entitled to recover the same as though he had not deserted. (Kelly v. United States, 5 C. Cl. 477.)

5. The appointment of a civilian naval storekeeper by the commander of a squadron is not authorized by law, and affords no ground for a claim for the salary. (Larkin v. United States, 5 C. Cl. 535.)

6. Commutation of fuel and quarters to Army officers, though resting on no specific legislation, has been so long given under authority of the War Department, and sanctioned so often by appropriations by Congress, that it cannot now be questioned. (Whittlesey v. United States, 5 C. Cl. 99.)

7. Officers retained in Freedman's Bureau, and on duty in Washington, after their muster out of the Army, with Army rank, are entitled as before to pay, commutation of fuel and quarters, and the 33 1/3 per cent. extra pay under act of March 2, 1867. (Ib.)

8. Where a provost marshal sold personal property which was said to belong to a deserter, and receive the money therefor, which was paid into the Treasury, and the deserter's title failed in the purchaser's hands: Held, that he might recover it back from Government as money had and received. (Brand v. United States, 5 C. Cl. 316.)

THE ARMS INVESTIGATION.

Two reports will be presented by the House Committee. The majority are expected to report as follows.

First: That in their opinion the War Department had a perfect right, by the law of nations, to sell arms and ordnance stores to any purchaser, even though that purchaser be known to be one of two belligerents, with both of which the United States was at peace.

Second: That there is no evidence that the War Department knowingly sold arms or ordnance stores to the French government, whatever may have been the knowledge of its subordinate agents in New York.

Third: That the arms and ordnance stores were sold in accordance with the provisions of the law of 1863, as interpreted at the War Department from the time of the passage of that act.

Fourth: That the arms and stores were sold to advantage, excellent prices having been obtained for them throughout.

Fifth: That there is no evidence of fraud or of any corruption in connection with these sales.

Sixth: That all moneys received have been paid into the Treasury of the United States, and fully accounted for.

The minority report has been submitted to the committee, and is, in substance, as follows. It insists, in the first place, that the War Department gave a latitudinarian construction to the act of Congress of July 20, 1868, authorizing the sale of damaged arms, ordnance stores, etc., which is dangerous to a republican form of government, where a strict construction of all acts of Congress ought to be the rule. Secondly, that the War and Ordnance Department must have or could have known if they had made the inquiry that the bulk of the arms were going to France, as they were delivered at a pier in New York city, which was the pier of the French steamers, and at which French vessels were in the habit of loading; that some of these arms were delivered directly on board of French steamers from lighters, in the presence of persons in the employ of the ordnance bureau, at New York city, and that some were delivered in boxes marked "R. F." which was generally understood to mean French republic. Also, that some of the guns were delivered after October 13, 1870, the day on which it became unmistakably known that the Remingtons were the agents of the French Government. Leaving the question of a violation of the neutrality laws to be argued, this proceeding might have been taken as a pretext by a Government more captious than Prussia, and the country might have become involved in all the horrors of war. As to the financial transactions it appears that the whole amount for which the guns were stated to have been sold, was paid into the Treasury Department, except \$219,705.33, which is said to have been expended in the transportation and getting the guns ready; but the items of this expenditure are not given. There is no evidence that any person, except one, received any pay or commission from this sale, and he was not connected with any department of the Government. He received \$10,000 from a firm of arms dealers in Baltimore, on account of a sale by it from the Navy Department. He states that he received the money as commissions, and that no other person got any portion of the money.

SEDAN AFTER THE SURRENDER.

As every one knows who has been in battle or with armies under any circumstances, whether it be of victory or defeat, the glowing pictures of our Abbotts, writing of great military heroes in a Connecticut parsonage, are never exactly realized on the actual field. This we say apropos of the description given by our old friend (or enemy, whichever we may choose to regard him) William Howard Russell, of the condition of things at Sedan after the surrender of the French army. The picture has a photographic exactness which will attest its truth to all who have been with a great army in time of war:

Arrived in Sedan in the afternoon, in torrents of rain, passing through the battle-field, the smell of which was worse than ever. Sedan air putrid, filled with a dank pestilence. A cheery German told us that typhus, small-pox, and cholera, were quite abundant, and that it was utterly out of the question to look for admission into any house. The whole Bavarian army quartered in the place. From hotel to hotel—from door to door—we went, leading our fagged horses, and literally begging our bread. At last a bright thought occurred to me. General von der Tann might be in the town. I asked. Oh, joy! Not only was he here, but he was Commandant Generalissimo of Sedan and of all the parts that there around did lie, established in the Hotel de la Croix d'Or, which is on the Place Turenne. Thither I repaired. I was resisted on the threshold by the sentries who guarded the general. A passing aide-de-camp, who knew me, took up my name to the general, and I was very soon afterwards in his presence. I doubt whether he at first believed my story, that I had actually been in London since he parted with me, corroborated as it was by the *Times* of the 6th with my letter in it. He gave orders that a room was to be found somehow or other in the large rambling hotel, and that the horses were to be provided for, a service for which I felt exceedingly grateful.

Looking round in the kennel of the Hotel de la Croix, on the floor of which I lay, I was not refreshed by the sight of my comrade in an agony of sickness, which rendered him indifferent to expostulation. The stench which came from the streets exceeded toleration. The reeking atmosphere seemed laden with disease; one could smell-decomposed animal matter; filth around, above, below. No bell to ring, no waiter to attend, no water to wash with; the only basin monopolised by the invalid. I wandered out in the passages, filled by frowsy soldiers, stumbling over uncouth boots, two or three pairs at the doors of each room denoting the number of the inmates inside. Fortunately I came across the aide-de-camp of General von der Tann, and made my way to his Excellency's room. There he was, surrounded with maps, plans, and reports, but half-dressed. The general gave me a mighty cup of chocolate and a slice of bread, for which I was most grateful.

Sedan is in a terrible condition. Typhus and small-pox are abroad. There is no forage to be had for the horses. Thousands of these are starving round the town. Some have been sold or given away, others shot. After breakfast I proceeded on a desperate expedition to hire a carriage to take me on. I had taken down the address of all the places where it was likely a carriage could be hired. Some were closed, in others every vehicle had been taken; but, indeed, I do not think that any Frenchman would have been very willing to have let a carriage out of his sight. It rained in torrents; the streets were deep in mud; all the shops shut; prisoners—immense trains of them of all arms—with their rations; the cav-

alry draped in their white cloaks, soiled and dirty; the men of crack corps still with a certain military swagger and air about them; but the troops of the line regiments disheartened, squalid, and unwholesome. Up the streets and down, look where you like, there they are tramping through the mud in thousands. Bavarians in multitudes also throng the streets. These are more than usually dirty, and seem as if they had lain, as, indeed, probably they may have done, out in the streets all night. I hear from an officer that 8,000 French officers have been patrolled. The walls are covered with notices, some from the German authorities warning the inhabitants that the soldiers must pay for everything and are to take nothing; that the wounded French are to be taken care of by their own people; that returns are to be made of all the inhabitants, and the like. French notices, issued before the battle and after it, may be read in curious juxtaposition. Now and then through the crowded street is borne a blood-stained litter, or something wrapped up in a blanket is carried along by men at each end. As it swings the living are jostled by the dead. Surgeons with the Geneva badge and Johannites and Sisters of Charity pierce through the throng. All searches for a carriage were vain; but in Sedan I would not pass another night, and I resolved by hook or by crook to make the best of my way to Donchery. I returned to the hotel, bade good-bye to General von der Tann, who, by this time, had prepared a great despatch with many seals to take to the Crown Prince. This would serve as a passport through the Prussian lines; but, in addition, the good general *vised* my ordinary passport and did all he could to help me in my difficulties. With difficulty I made my way out through the gates by Torcy, and got upon the high road to Donchery. No words could describe the streets—horses blown out to an enormous size, rotting in the dykes and in the inundations, the *debris* of the battle, and the horrible *rabblement* of hundreds of thousands of men penned inside and outside the town; herds of horses, some wounded, in meadows trampled into black pasty mud, groups of Bavarians shooting the beasts one by one and throwing them into the river, where the carcasses float slowly down, forming great parti-colored islands. Every sense was outraged.

THE BRITISH ARMY AND ITS ADVANTAGES.

The following are the terms, as issued by the authority of the Adjutant-General, on which young men are invited to join Her Majesty's forces:

A soldier who enlists in the infantry engages to serve for twelve years, the first six years in the army and the last six years in the reserve, receiving 1s. 2d. a day, with an additional 1d. "beer money," lodging, bedding, fuel, and lights.

Good food is provided at less than cost price; at home a daily ration, consisting of 1 lb. of bread and $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of meat, is supplied to soldiers for 4 1-2d., which is stopped from their pay; in the colonies, 1 lb. of bread and 1 lb. of meat is supplied for 3 1-2d.

The soldier on first joining is clothed, and provided with brushes, razors, and all other necessaries, free of charge.

He is afterward supplied annually with the principal articles of clothing, but is required to provide himself with some of the smaller articles, such as shirts and socks, and to keep up his supply of brushes, etc., at his own cost; these are furnished at a low price by Government, and the total expense to which he is put on this account does not, on an average, amount to a penny a day.

In case of sickness, medical treatment in hospital, with proper food, etc., is provided by a stoppage of 10d. a day from the soldier's pay.

By good conduct a soldier may obtain an increase to his pay of 1d. a day after two years' service.

When a soldier is transferred to the reserve for the last six years of his engagement, he receives 4d. a day in return for which he is liable to be drilled occasionally, and in case of imminent national danger or of great emergency, to be recalled to service in the army.

A soldier especially recommended is permitted to remain in the army the whole twelve years, and if he has conducted himself well and is fit, may be allowed to re-engage, to complete twenty-one years' service, after which he will, on discharge, become entitled to a pension for life, varying from 8d. to 2s. 6d. a day, according to his rank and service. After completing twenty-one years' service he may apply to be allowed to remain for a further period in the army, and will be allowed to claim his discharge at any time, at the expiration of three months from the date of his giving notice. During his extended service he may earn increased good-conduct pay at the rate of 2d. a day after six years' service, 3d. a day after twelve years' service, 4d. a day after eighteen years' service, 5d. a day after twenty-three years' service, and 6d. a day after twenty-eight years' service.

If recalled to service in the army from the reserve, a soldier will receive full daily pay, and the time he has served in the reserve will reckon toward good-conduct pay, as if he had served continuously in the army; and, if at the end of his limited engagement he re-engages, the time he has served in the reserve will count for year towards pension or discharge.

A soldier who enlists in the cavalry, royal artillery, and royal engineers, engages to serve twelve years in the army, at the end of which period if he has conducted himself well and is fit, he may be allowed to re-engage to complete twenty-one years' service, after which he will, on discharge, receive a pension for life, varying from 8d. to 2s. 6d. a day, according to his rank and service.

The daily pay of a soldier in the cavalry is 1s. 5d., in the royal artillery 1s. 4 1-2d., and in the royal engineers 1s. 4 1-2d., with an additional 1d. "beer money" in each case.

A soldier in the royal engineers receives, in addition to his ordinary pay, extra "working pay," generally varying from 1s. to 2s. a day, according to the nature of

the work on which he is employed, and his qualifications; trained artificers and good workmen are, however, alone accepted as recruits for the royal engineers.

Soldiers in the cavalry, royal artillery, and royal engineers receive the same advantages as regards lodging, food, clothing, medical treatment, good-conduct pay, and extension of service, as have been described as given to soldiers in the infantry.

In addition to the advantages already explained, canteens are established in which soldiers of all arms can buy beer, tobacco, and other articles at cheaper rates than elsewhere. The soldier has the benefit of a regimental school, in which he may get a sound and useful education; the use of a library and recreation room; and in most places other means of amusement. In many places he has time and opportunities given him to learn a trade, by which he may earn money while in the army and be better prepared for gaining his livelihood when he leaves the service.

If wounded in action, or in any way maimed in the performance of his military duties, he becomes entitled to a pension.

A deserving soldier on his discharge, is well fitted, from his regular habits, for many situations—such as those in the police, on the railroads, or other employments in civil life—and a good character on discharge from the service gives him the best testimonial for such employment.

As an additional inducement to good men to join Her Majesty's service, advantages are given to soldiers who on leaving the army may wish for employment in the civil service, and to soldiers in the reserve who wish for employment as country post-office messengers.

A SOLDIERS' and sailors' convention met in Washington May 6, to act in the matter of Western soldiers' colonies. This meeting was preliminary to the organization of colonies in Washington and elsewhere for emigration. Business meetings of soldiers are to be held to further the matter of organizing colonies to locate along the Northern Pacific road and elsewhere, of which due notice will be given. All schemes for the colonization of the West by large numbers of settlers moving together are praiseworthy, as by this means much of the violence and danger of new settlements is avoided. Colonel J. O. P. Burnside was chairman, and addresses were made by Hon. Wm. Dunnell of Minnesota, and Hon. W. H. Claggett of Montana. After this meeting another was held at which resolutions were adopted asking Congress to remove from the bounty laws the provision requiring personal occupation and cultivation, and also for the equalization of bounties.

THE committee on Appropriations have adopted Mr. Sargent's bill for a life-size statue of the late Edward Dickinson Baker, Senator from the State of Oregon, who was killed at the head of his brigade on the disastrous field of Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861. The statue will be of marble, and placed in the hall of the House of Representatives.

On the 3d of April evidence of fraud in the collection of bounty claims was sent by the Second Auditor to the U. S. Attorney at Little Rock, Ark., with request to promptly prosecute the offenders. The District Attorney now reports that on the 19th of April, three parties, Allen Redmond, Jerry and William Pitts, were convicted and sentenced to one year in the penitentiary. Other parties are under indictment, but have not yet been apprehended.

MILITARY ORDER, LOYAL LEGION.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS, BOSTON, May 2, 1872.

At a stated meeting of this Commandery held at the Parker House, School street, on Wednesday evening, May 1, the following-named candidates were duly elected companions of the order of the first class:

Lieutenant-Colonel George Pope, late Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers Infantry, Boston.

Brevet Major Charles H. Hurd, late captain and assistant adjutant-general U. S. Volunteers, Boston.

Brevet Major Henry M. Duffield, late first lieutenant and adjutant, Ninth Michigan Volunteers, assistant provost-general, Army of the Cumberland, Detroit, Mich.

Captain John R. White, late Ninety-ninth New York Volunteers Infantry, assistant inspector-general Third division, Eighteenth Army Corps, Boston.

Brevet Major William S. Greenough, late captain Eighteenth New Hampshire Volunteers Infantry, Boston.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Albert A. Pope, late captain Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers Infantry, Boston.

Sergeant (Major) George H. W. Herrick, late First U. S. Volunteers Infantry (white), Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and northwest, Charleston, Mass.

The following-named Companions were elected officers for the ensuing year:

Commander—Companion Brevet Major-General Charles Devens, Jr., U. S. Volunteers.

Senior Vice Commander—Companion Brevet Brigadier-General Wm. Cogswell, U. S. Volunteers.

Junior Vice Commander—Companion Captain William F. Spicer, U. S. Navy.

Recorder—Companion Brevet Major James B. Bell, U. S. Volunteers.

Registrar—Companion Lieutenant Henry M. Rogers, U. S. Navy. Treasurer—Companion Captain William Pratt, U. S. Volunteers. Chancellor—Companion Lieutenant-Colonel William V. Hutchings, U. S. Volunteers.

Chaplain—Companion Rev. H. Clay Trumbull, U. S. Volunteers.

Council—Companion Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen M. Crosby, U. S. Volunteers; Companion Commander William Roberts, U. S. Navy; Companion Brigadier-General John H. Reed, M. Volunteers; Companion Lieutenant Charles Fairchild, U. S. Navy; Companion Brevet Captain Otho E. Michaelis, U. S. Army.

Official: JAMES B. BELL, Recorder.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

ARMY.

MAY 3.

Davies, J. M., Colonel. Kilpatrick, General.
Hartman, C. Captain. Price, George, Captain.

Thorpe, William, Captain.

MAY 4.

Bates, T. C., Colonel. Hudson, M. R., Colonel.
Cavanagh, Colonel. Macias, Colonel.
Purvington, W. W., Captain.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

REGIMENTAL AND COMPANY ORGANIZATIONS.—There is a disposition on the part of many company organizations in the National Guard to consider the interest of the company paramount to that of the regiment, and instances are fresh in our minds where companies have introduced subjects and carried into effect projects entirely antagonistic to the welfare of the organization of which they form but a part. The custom of electing civil officers without consideration of rank, and of introducing all sorts of clauses in the company by-laws, has much to do with this, and has tended to check a regard for the higher laws governing the regimental command. In our estimation the company commandant should always be the presiding officer at meetings for civil purposes, and his associated officers should occupy positions not inferior to their rank as officers. Meetings for civil purposes are to a large extent military in their general characteristics, and the meeting room and armory are virtually the encampment of the regiment, and all doing therein military, in the true sense. It seems, however, that but few companies take this view of the matter, and transact their business with an utter disregard for military rulings or etiquette. Then again, company social gatherings are constantly being held, at which the name of the regiment is entirely lost for the time being amid the diffusion of plaudits and eloquence of company members and their associates. Everything is toasted, from the "Great American Union" to the tallest man on the right, but the regiment, without whose aid the company would be as nothing, frequently never mentioned. All this is radically wrong; in fact, we have sometimes been in doubt, and asked ourselves on these occasions, is this company the regiment or the regiment this company? Let a company once attain notoriety for some reputable military transaction—say a "champion" or exhibition drill—it immediately takes up some fancy designation, as this or that "Guard," is published under this name throughout the country, and in a short time publicly loses its alphabetical position, and the regiment to which it is attached soon becomes apparently unknown or beyond recollection.

The Seventh, to its praise, has never introduced any of these company fane, names, but instead, the companies have assumed numerical designations, such as "First," "Second," or "Third," as the case may be, in place of "A," "B," "C," the only correct style of determining company organizations, except when applied to relative position in rank or line. Yet these company "numericals" are as strong as the "fancy fixtures" peculiar to the companies of other regiments, and the mere mention of Second company, or the like, leaves it unnecessary to state the regimental numerical designation, so clearly is it understood. Can any one inform us why the Seventh alone adopts these peculiar numerical terms for its companies, or why none of the companies of other commands have followed the Seventh? The question has often occurred to us, but it still remains unanswered. These numericals attached to the companies, however, do not make the members forget their allegiance to the regiment, which is the first consideration. The Twenty-second regiment, we learn, has made an important movement in the right direction, which undoubtedly will tend greatly to overcome these company peculiarities and prejudices. This regiment proposes to organize every company on a similar basis, governed by similar by-laws, abolishing company recruiting committees and company courts-martial, these being controlled, and most properly too, by the regiment as a whole. Men will be recruited for no special company, but all placed in the regimental recruit class, and the graduate allowed a choice of company, or else placed into the company needing the most men. This is the best plan, as viewed from a military point, yet established in the National Guard, and will be conducive of much good in promoting perfect unison in the regimental command. If companies were only more nearly equal in strength there would never be the continuous and objectionable detailing of men from one company to fill up the ranks of another. Members at all times rebel against these details, and in some respects on good grounds; but even in this one can see how unwillingly these members sacrifice the company for regimental interests.

MILITARY CRITICISM.—We have lately had occasion to speak of two regimental drills of the Seventh Infantry. Of one our praise was so unreserved as perhaps to seem fulsome, the other we found it necessary to criticise. Comments which have come to us on the difference between the remarks of the JOURNAL on these two occasions induce us to explain our general theory of the scope, limits, and office of military criticism. In the first place, while we do not have much respect for "genial" criticism, we also have great contempt for that other sort which easily degenerates into personal abuse and insult. The true medium which we try to follow is that of careful, pains-taking, considerate, but perfectly fair criticism, which will neither overlook nor palliate an error. In endeavoring to follow this course it becomes necessary for us to bestow blame perhaps oftener than praise; but where, as in the case of the Seventh's drill, of which we spoke with such unreserved commendation, it is possible to give a full and overflowing measure of praise, we gladly improve the opportunity. A word of generous recognition of actual merit often does more good to an earnest, industrious command than a hundred of sharp criticism; but praise indiscriminately bestowed is worse than censure justly and

severely administered; and our experience of the National Guard organizations, to their honor be it said, is that they resent with as much disgust attempts at flattery as they repel unmerited or improper criticism.

THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.—This regiment, since the election of its new commander (General Jourdan), has remained unusually quiet, not having drilled by battalion since last February. Drills by company, however, have continued very successfully during the winter, and the regiment has lost none of its characteristic *esprit de corps*. The regimental commander has devoted most of his spare time to headquarter duties, and, with the efficient aid of Adjutant Richards, has at last arranged every matter appertaining thereto as best suits the regiment and the interests of the service. The companies mainly have closed the drill season, no general or public exhibition having been made by any. One or two regimental full-dress wing drills are proposed at the State Arsenal some time during the present month, and we trust the regiment will at least give its friends some opportunity of knowing that it is not asleep, as some of its rivals have suggested, but that it has only temporarily covered its light under a bushel. The new armory question is in the hands of a competent committee, and during the winter many supervisor committees have been frightened from the "city armory," the present headquarters of the regiment, by the writings on the walls—"Unsafe," particularly when the heavy tread of martial men o'er head indicated that the open air would be more conducive to health, as well as life. Brooklyn Hall or Market is proposed as the new armory of the regiment, but we fear the Thirteenth has waited too long for immediate success in this direction; for true reformation in city affairs means economy. Still the Brooklyn authorities may not think so, and in this instance, we opine, they would be perfectly justifiable. A new company is in prospective, and the former commandant of Company H, Captain Van Cleef, is suggested as its leader. The organization of a new company we trust will succeed, if only to get so good an officer as Captain "Van" once more in the regiment. The National Guard can ill afford to lose officers like him.

Since writing the above we have received General Orders (not through the regular source) directing a detail of nine files from each company in this command to assemble in fatigue uniform, for drill and instruction, at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, on the 16th and 23d instants, at 8 o'clock p. m. A board of examination is appointed to meet at regimental headquarters at such times as the commanding officer of the regiment may direct, for the purpose of determining the tactical and general qualifications of all non-commissioned officers of the command who have not passed for their respective grades. Detail for the board: Lieutenant-Colonel Philip H. Briggs, Captain Garrett C. Hallenbeck, and Lieutenant Lefferts L. Laidlaw.

FIRST INFANTRY.—This regiment closed the season with a full dress battalion drill at the State Arsenal on the evening of May 2. The eight companies were equalized to ten files each. The battalion, under command of Colonel Cooper, was reviewed by Brigadier-General Varsen, who was accompanied by his staff. Movements in the School of the Battalion followed, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Webster, Colonel Cooper being too ill to command during the entire evening. In all the movements of the evening the men appeared to excellent advantage, and the battalion as a whole went through the drill well. The errors which we are obliged to chronicle were entirely the fault of officers, without exception. The manual was very good. Several men in the front rank appeared to have reported their gloves as "lost in action;" these "casualties," however, might well have been "supplied from the rear rank." The adjutant ordered "Troop, beat off," instead of simply "Beat off." The "troop" is only proper at guard mounting. The connoisseurs present who expected to witness Colonel Cooper's *début* were disappointed, as he only assumed command during the review. He had not yet succeeded in laying aside the habits of the obsolete system, commanding, for example, "To the rear open order," instead of "Battalion prepare for review, rear open order," just previous to the last salute. The battalion passed in review twice in quick time. The marching and salutes were good on both occasions. Why the second "march past" was made we are ignorant. Most of the officers saluted in passing the second time, but one company passed at right shoulder shift. While wheeling into line considerable distance seemed to have been lost, and the colonel, while the alignment by the right was going on, commanded, "On the centre dress," which was decidedly incorrect. The battalion movements, under the lieutenant-colonel, were then executed. The programme gone through was excellently arranged. In plying into column the chiefs of the right and of the color division (double column), instead of facing about promptly and cautioning in loud, clear voice "such division, forward guide right (or left)," hesitated, and waited until the next companies had wheeled by fours, and should have been marching over the ground they still held. We noticed throughout a lack of promptness and decision, and sometimes entire neglect of duties, on the part of company commanders in cautioning their commands. The lieutenant-colonel gave the erroneous commands, "Column of fours break from the right to march to the left; right forward, fours right," which many of the men understood to be an advance by the right

of companies; "guides, posts," instead of "guides about face;" and "double column at half distance, fours right and left." The movements of forming double column into line to a flank and forming square were finely done. The battalion formed single rank and marched the length of the room in column by division in magnificent style, forty-three front, eliciting great applause. We may sum up this drill by saying that it was, on the part of the men, first-rate; on the part of the officers, second-rate. The recruiting medals for the past year were presented at the close of the drill to Companies C, D, and F.

EIGHTH INFANTRY.—The Eighth still maintains position in its palatial little armory, and despite the action of the Board of Supervisors we presume will continue to occupy the expensive luxury until a compromise of some kind is made on the part of the owners of the building with the city authorities, or provision made for quarters suitable to the well-established reputation of the regiment. One thing, however, is certain, it will never do for it to return to the dilapidated armory over Centre Market. It would be about as well to disband the regiment, for the effect on the *morale* of the command would be almost equivalent to that. Colonel Scott, the regimental commander, has long striven for better accommodations for the Eighth, and in negotiating for the new armory has acted as any other commandant, under similar circumstances, would have done. While we condemn the former administration of the city affairs, in renting a building at so extortionate a price, no one condemns the action of Colonel Scott or his regiment in accepting the new armory. The payment of such rentals by the city for quarters for the National Guard is disastrous to the interests of the service, and should never be encouraged. There is no reason why the drill-rooms of our city troops should cost so much; and we encourage, in the interests of the National Guard, any movement that, while regarding these interests, shall reform the matter altogether. It seems that Colonel Scott, last week, was "interviewed" on the subject of the new armory, and his story, as published below, shows that he acted purely for the interest of his command and without any intention of defrauding the city. It appears according to the statement made that nearly two years ago Colonel Scott was approached by James H. Ingersoll, and asked if he wished to procure a new armory for his regiment, which at that time was using the old Centre Market armory. Colonel Scott replied that he had been trying for some time to obtain a new armory, as the one which his regiment then occupied was so dilapidated as to be unsafe. Mr. Ingersoll said he was about to erect a building in Twenty-third street, in company with a few others, and persuaded Colonel Scott to engage it in advance, for armory purposes. This scheme of Ingersoll's resulted in complications, concerning which Colonel Scott made the following statement:

At the last meeting of the Board of Supervisors, a resolution was passed cancelling and annulling the lease which my regiment had obtained of the large building in Twenty-third street, recently erected by Ingersoll and others. This resolution was passed under the impression that the rent (\$36,000 per year) was too high, and I believe myself that it is enormous. My regiment formally took possession of the building on the first of last month, and a bill has been presented to the Board of Supervisors, in the name of Conrad D. Boller, for the rent of the armory from May 1, 1871, when, in fact, the building was not sufficiently completed for occupation until April 1, 1872. No doubt this illegal charge is what caused the board to cancel the lease. I have heard the matter of the ownership of the building discussed repeatedly, and am quite positive that James H. Ingersoll is the principal owner, though there may be several others who have some interest in it. There was no undue influence brought to bear upon myself or my officers, to induce us to rent the building, though we were glad to accept the offer, as our old armory in Centre Market was in very bad condition. The Eighth regiment has never cost the city, in reality, more than \$1,500, though \$30,000 has been paid to different persons, principally to Andrew J. Garvey, for work done on the old armory. Garvey came there twice with a few men, who left, after bothering around about half a day, without accomplishing much. If we are compelled to leave the new armory we have just moved into, of course, it will then be my duty to rent another. The law in this respect provides that the colonel of each regiment may himself select a suitable place for an armory; but the rent must not exceed \$250 a year for each company in the command. In a full regiment there are ten companies, which would make the legal rent the city should pay, \$2,500 per year; so that Ingersoll & Co. are demanding \$33,500 per year more than the law allows.

THE DECORATION DAY PARADE.—The joint parade of the First and Second divisions of the National Guard on May 30, in New York city, for review by his Excellency Governor Hoffman, is now about the chief military sensation in this vicinity. We have heretofore expressed our opinion as to the feasibility of having a review of so large a body of troops in the narrow streets of a city, and also in relation to forcing the Second division to go so far away from its own domains (Brooklyn) for a mere marching salute and street parade, and we still adhere to the opinion then expressed. But as the project, we understand, came almost direct from General Headquarters, and the arrangements are now about completed, we can do no more than give the details as far as perfected by Major-General Shaler, commanding First Division, as contained in General Orders and Circular No. 4:

The First division, in connection with the Second division, N. G. S. N. Y., will parade for inspection and review by the Commander-in-Chief, on "Decoration Day," at 3 o'clock p. m. The division will be formed in a deployed line, on the west side of Fifth avenue, north side of East Forty-second street, and east side of Madison avenue, left resting at the northwest corner of Madison avenue and East Thirty-fourth street, in the following order from left to right, viz.:

Battery K, Captain John N. Heubner; Third brigade, Brigadier-General J. M. Varian; Battery G, Captain E. M. LeMoine; Battery C, Captain William Schilling; Second brigade, Brigadier-General Augustus Funk; Battery B, Captain John Keim; First brigade, Brigadier-General W. G. Ward. Brigade commanders will report to the chief of staff as soon as their commands are formed. The line of march will be down Fifth avenue to the point of review, which will be established in Washington Square, south of Waverley Place. The Second brigade will be inspected and reviewed by the major-general commanding the division, in Tompkins Square at 10 o'clock A. M. on the same day.

The following instructions, published for the guidance of the troops on the occasion of the parade for review, show conclusively how necessary it is to cramp the position of troops in order "to conform" to the limited space allowed for review in the streets of a city:

The intervals between regiments in line will be reduced to ten paces. The front rank will be placed at four paces from the curb. When ranks are open company officers will remain two paces in front of their companies, colors will advance two paces, and field officers take post four paces in front of their regiments. Brigade commanders and their staffs will take post ten paces from the right of their brigades, the general officers on a line with field officers of regiments, and brigade staffs on a line with company officers, the brigade colors and orderlies in their rear.

Each battery will be formed in column of pieces, right in front, as close as possible to the curb, with the cannoneers in line on the left flank, and officers of mounted batteries mounted on the right of their respective commands. The drivers of mounted batteries will remain mounted.

The Commander-in-Chief will be received by the division commander at the right of the line at 3 o'clock P. M., and the review will commence. As the reviewing personage approaches, he will be saluted by the brigade commanders, and by the regiments in succession at the commands of their colonels, in time to resume the carry before their bands begin to play. The bands will play while the reviewing personage is passing in front of their respective regiments. The reviewing personage will pass along the front of the line to the left of the Second division, and from thence direct to the point of review.

In passing in review regimental commanders will cause at least three additional drummers, or trumpeters, to wheel out of the column with their bands, to beat the march, or sound the flourishes for the Commander-in-Chief.

In order that the troops may have every facility for proceeding without obstruction in their march after passing in review, brigade commanders will so far as practicable place their regiments in line at the formation without regard to numerical position, so that regiments having armories west of South Fifth avenue may turn to the right on reaching Fourth street, and those whose armories are situated east of South Fifth avenue may turn to the left, alternately.

The division staff will assemble, mounted and in full uniform, at No. 9 West Thirteenth street, at 9 o'clock A. M.

The Second division has withheld its orders for the Decoration Day parade in consequence of the law which forbids a parade of troops within five days of a municipal election, except for suppression of riots, etc. As the charter election in New York city will be held during the last week of this month, if the Governor signs the charter, there is some doubt about the Decoration Day parade taking place.

FIRST DIVISION COURT-MARTIAL.—We publish below a review of the proceedings of a Court-martial appointed to pass upon the delinquencies of officers absent from parades, etc., held pursuant to First division orders, during the year 1871. The comments of Major-General Shaler are sound and strictly military in every instance. Some officers, by a careful perusal of this review, may perhaps learn the difference between a "leave of absence" and a "furlough," and the powers of brigade and regimental commanders in regard to granting "leaves" to subordinates. After calling attention to General Orders No. 6, series of 1871, the reviewing officer says:

The court has repeated some of the errors of its predecessor, as follows: 1st. In excusing officers from liability on the plea of not having received notice to parade, etc. The principle which should have governed the court in the cases of Major Gilon, First brigade staff; Lieutenant-Colonel Madden, First Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel Schmale, Third Cavalry; and Major Hammer, Ninety-sixth regiment, all absent from meeting for instruction, October 17, is clearly laid down in the order referred to as the first rule to be observed. As there is no evidence in the record to show that the failure to receive notices was due to the neglect of the warning officers, the proceedings of the court in these cases are disapproved.

The court has in some cases excused officers who had the permission of their superiors to absent themselves from parades, etc., and in other cases has fined them for like offences. In this connection to guide future courts in distinguishing leaves which are granted by the proper source, from unauthorized leaves, reference is made to article XII, General Regulations. While it is unquestionably the privilege of brigade commanders to grant leaves of absence to subordinates, the law and regulations do not contemplate that this authority should be exercised by them in direct conflict with orders from a higher source. Leaves of absence granted by brigade commanders before the receipt of orders from division headquarters, directing a parade or other duty, are certainly sufficient to excuse officers from such parade or duty, but, after a division order has been issued, it cannot be set aside by subordinate authority. If the officer requesting a leave has a valid reason for so doing, the same reason which would influence his brigade commander to allow him to be absent would doubtless satisfy the court-martial. All leaves of absence should be granted formally in Special Orders, on application through the proper channels, and with the consent of the intermediate superiors, so that an officer would always have in his possession the authority for absenting himself from his command. Regimental commanders have no power to grant leaves of absence. The word "Furlough," in the case of Lieutenant Von Oehsen, Third Cavalry, is supposed to mean "leave of absence," and it is assumed that it was granted by the proper authority. Furloughs are only given to enlisted men. Presuming that the court has been governed in its action by the law, and by the suggestions contained in the General Orders referred to, the proceedings in this class of cases are approved.

In the cases of Colonel Cavanagh, Sixty-ninth regiment, and Major Dickel, Second brigade staff, absent from meeting for instruction, October 17, excused by the court because they were engaged in other duties, there being no evidence introduced to show that they were so engaged by orders from the same or higher authority than that which ordered the meeting for instruction, the proceedings are therefore disapproved.

In every case where sickness is offered as a plea for non-performance of duty, courts for trial of delinquent officers should require a surgeon's certificate to that effect.

It is noticed that the court did not pass upon the delinquencies in the cases of Assistant Surgeon Margrovia, Fifth regiment, Captain P. J. Martin, First regiment, Lieutenant Kennier, Eighth regiment, and Lieutenant Bagley, Eighth regiment, apparently for the reason that the marshal of the court stated that they "could not be found." Section 142, Military Code, very clearly defines

what constitutes proper service of notice to attend court-martial. It is not indispensable that notices should be served personally. All officers who are not discharged, or whose commissions are not vacated by removal or otherwise, are amenable to the law, and should not be permitted to escape the consequences of their delinquencies by their omission or neglect to give proper notice of changes of address. The court should have proceeded with these cases, and not have dropped them. The proceedings in the cases mentioned above are therefore disapproved.

While approving the action of the court in attaching a penalty for every neglect of duty, the general commanding thinks that in some cases the fines imposed are somewhat excessive. It is supposed that every officer of the National Guard has sufficient *esprit de corps* to induce him at all times to a prompt and cheerful discharge of all his duties. It is not deemed necessary, therefore, that the fines for all delinquencies should be made so heavy that they will become burdensome, but they should be sufficiently so to stimulate the desire on the part of the officer to make extra exertions or sacrifices for the discipline and welfare of his command. To avoid all discrimination, the decision of the court in all cases, so far as it refers to the amount of fines imposed, is modified as follows, viz.: Colonel Porter, 22d regiment, absent July 4.....from \$25 to \$10 Chaplain Eber, 11th " July 12....." 50 " 10 Captain Courtney, 9th " July 12....." 50 " 10 Lieutenant Mackey, 1st " July 4, 12, and November 21....." 60 " 25 Lieutenant G. F. Heil, 1st regiment, absent July 4 and 13....." 55 " 20 Lieutenant Quackenbush, 84th regiment, absent July 12....." 25 " 10 Lieutenant Carroll, 12th regiment, absent November 7 and 21....." 30 " 20

In the case of Colonel Allen, Fifty-fifth regiment, the fine is remitted, he having been discharged from service before the assembly of the court.

The proceedings and findings in all cases not herein referred to, and disapproved, are confirmed.

The division commander in a circular further says:

As ignorance of the law and military custom cannot be justly pleaded as an excuse for negligence of duty, and as officers have testified before courts-martial that they had no knowledge whatever of the provisions and directions contained in certain important orders, the major-general commanding deems it necessary to direct the future distribution of general orders and circulars as follows: Ordinarily there are received at these headquarters 75 copies of general orders and circulars, from general headquarters, of which 20 copies will be sent to each brigade headquarters. Three copies are intended for each regiment, and the balance for filing at brigade headquarters, and it is hereby made the duty of brigade commanders to see that they are so distributed. Every order received will be read to each regiment on the first regimental or battalion parade or drill succeeding the receipt of the order. Forty copies of general orders and circulars from these headquarters will be sent to each brigade, of which five copies will be sent to each regimental headquarters. When orders or circulars of general interest, needed by every officer for reference, are issued, a sufficient number to furnish every officer with a copy will be sent to brigade headquarters. Commandants of brigades and separate troops, companies and batteries, will be required to sign receipts specifying the number of copies of every general and special order and circular delivered to them, and the division commander hopes that every officer in the division will make himself acquainted with the contents of every order and circular issued to the command.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—On Monday evening Company C, Twenty-third Infantry, Captain Charles S. West commanding, closed the drill season, by a full-dress drill at the armory. The company paraded in good numbers, and taken as a whole the drill was very creditable, especially when it is considered that a large number of recruits were in the ranks, which speaks well for the attention to duty of the squad instructors. There were a number of spectators present, many of whom were veterans of the company, and manifested their interest by their presence. The past season has been one of undoubted progress in this command, and it was never in better condition than at present.....The following appointments and promotions on the staff of the major-general commanding the First division are announced under date of May 8: Lieutenant-Colonel John Fowler, Jr., ordnance officer, to be judge-advocate, with the rank of colonel, vice Oakey, resigned and honorably discharged; Major John Mechan, aide-de-camp, to be ordnance officer, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, vice Fowler, appointed judge-advocate; Captain Thomas Fairgrieve, aide-de-camp, to be aide-de-camp, with the rank of major.....The Forty-seventh gives its last band concert in aid of a new uniform for the band on next Thursday evening at the regimental armory, Brooklyn, E. D.....The Twenty-third and its band give a testimonial benefit to their favorite band leaders, Messrs Papet and Contorno, on the 18th inst., at Burnham's Academy, Brooklyn.....There is a movement to form an association of the members who served with the Third Infantry, New York Volunteers. Major Fred. J. Kardur, 89 Meserole street, Williamsburgh, N. Y., calls for the names, addresses, and ideas of old comrades on the subject.....In our comments on the last drill of the Seventh, we inadvertently did injustice to Lieutenant-Colonel Ryder in regard to the "dressing" at double column at half distance. The alleged error occurred before our arrival on the ground, and we received our information from an officer whom we considered good authority. We regret the reflection on the lieutenant-colonel, and take pleasure in correcting the mistake.....The Twenty-second and Seventy-first have abandoned the street parade and review, and now propose to take Bunker Hill, by a joint excursion to Boston. They will be the guests, it is said, of the First Massachusetts.....Company F, Forty-seventh, Captain Tuttle, do not propose, as announced, any independent excursion.....The Eighth is recruiting rapidly since entering its new home.....No less than three regiments of the First division propose encampments this summer. Probably one will encamp.....The colonel of the First Infantry, judging from the last drill of the regiment (a report of which is published elsewhere in these columns), should order at least one-third of the "line" of the regiment before an examining board. The inferior military knowledge of many of these officers is retarding the progress of one of the best "little" regiments in the division. In fact it should be a "staving" regiment, with a Cooper as its leader.....The Ninth drilled on Tompkins Square on Thursday afternoon, and had a warm time of it.....At an election in Company E, Seventh regiment, held on Wednesday evening, First Lieutenant Barrett was elected captain, vice Ryder, promoted lieutenant-colonel, and First Sergeant A. T. Wyckoff, first lieutenant, vice Barrett, promoted.....A pleasant hop was

given by Company C, Second regiment Pennsylvania National Guards, on Monday evening, at Philadelphia.....It will be observed by reference to orders issued by General Ord, commanding Department of the Platte, published elsewhere, that the first regular movement has been made towards introducing rifle practice in the Army. Now, unless the regiments of the National Guard work more actively in the above mentioned branch of drill, the Army of the United States will soon hold full sway in marksmanship. The Seventh drill exceedingly well, and are well disciplined, but let us ask, How many can shoot?

OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS

MASSACHUSETTS.—This State inaugurated an excellent system for the proper instruction and advancement of its militia when it enforced annual encampments among its troops, and provided for their payment, as well as for furnishing equipments; but the State looks still further to the interests of its military when it provides, at its own expense, suitable grounds for these encampments. The encampments of the militia of Massachusetts last year cost the State one hundred thousand dollars, exclusive of the rental of the grounds, which, as usual, was settled by the brigades or brigade commanders. The bill for the purchase of a general camp ground for the State has now become law; the power of purchase is vested in the Governor and Council, the location, etc., to be determined by a commission appointed by him. It probably will not be selected immediately, and the grounds at Cambridge will not be sold until the selection is made. Various localities are named, but the one most in favor is Concord. Swampscott has its friends, however, and both places will be visited by the commission.

The question of providing the State militia with a breech-loading arm still remains in *status quo*, Governor Washburn having expressed his intention of awaiting the action of Congress in regard to the arming of the regulars. The sum of money appropriated by the Legislature of last year for the purpose will revert to the State, if not used before next January, and the various organizations are getting a little anxious on the subject.

The cavalry battalion, Major Freeman, and the artillery battalion, Major Follett, will encamp together from the 13th to the 17th of August, probably at Quincy Point. The Second battalion (colored), Major Gaul, will go into camp at Myrick's Junction on the 27th of the same month. These are the only organizations that have as yet signified the place and time of their annual gathering.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS STATE OF NEW YORK, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, May 1, 1872.

The following-named officers have been commissioned in the National Guard State of New York during the month of April, 1872:

Seventh Division—Colonel Fred. Cook, judge-advocate, with rank from April 19, vice J. W. Kelly, resigned.

First Infantry—Hugo M. Otto, captain, with rank from March 11, vice Chas. W. Terrette, resigned; Ottomar Ostman, first lieutenant, with rank from April 8, vice W. McKee, resigned.

Fifth Infantry—Chas. S. Spencer, colonel, with rank from March 15, vice J. E. Bendix, resigned; Nicholas R. Connor, quartermaster, with rank from March 15, vice Joseph Sattig, retired with former colonel; Altermus L. Vandewater, surgeon, with rank from March 15, original; Geo. R. Phillips, assistant surgeon, with rank from March 15, vice A. Mayrowicz, retired with former colonel.

Sixth Infantry—Charles F. Reichel, captain, with rank from April 2, vice F. Schoen, resigned.

Seventh Infantry—Stephen O. Ryder, lieutenant-colonel, with rank from April 1, vice Geo. T. Haws, resigned.

Ninth Infantry—Harvey B. Deanisson, first lieutenant, with rank from March 13, vice J. F. Guning, resigned.

Eleventh Infantry—Cuno Masshoff, first lieutenant, with rank from March 29, vice Chas. Long, resigned.

Thirteenth Infantry—Samuel F. Strong, first lieutenant, with rank from March 20, 1871, vice E. L. Hull, promoted; Alfred H. Williams, captain, with rank from April 3, vice W. Barnett, resigned.

Twenty-eighth Battalion of Infantry—Henry Hafner, second lieutenant, with rank from September 12, 1871, vice Jacob Schlitz, resigned; Henry Steinhauer, captain, with rank from March 21, vice Joseph Altenbrant, resigned.

Forty-eighth Infantry—John Clark, second lieutenant, with rank from March 25, vice Jeremiah Kane, resigned.

Fifty-first Infantry—Miles Penfield, second lieutenant, with rank from November 17, 1871, vice Sidney Williams, resigned.

Fifty-fourth Infantry—Jacob Schalber, first lieutenant, with rank from April 4, vice John Bingers, resigned; Edwin P. Brownell, first lieutenant, with rank from April 18, vice Geo. A. Wallace, resigned.

Fifty-fifth Infantry—Fred. Fleischbein, second lieutenant, with rank from January 17, vice P. H. Schweinfurth, resigned.

Sixty-fifth Infantry—Chas. F. Pucher, assistant commissary of subsistence, with rank from March 14, original.

Sixty-ninth Infantry—John Morris, first lieutenant, with rank from April 5, vice F. T. Goggins, promoted; Michael J. Fitzgerald, second lieutenant, with rank from April 5, vice J. Morris, promoted; Ramon Amabile, assistant surgeon, with rank from April 6, vice W. O'Donnell, declined.

Seventy-first Infantry—Theodore V. Smith, captain, with rank from March 21, vice Gerard Betts, resigned.

Seventy-fourth Infantry—Geo. W. Gibson, second lieutenant, with rank from February 21, vice John C. Dolan, resigned.

Seventy-ninth Battalion of Infantry—Robert A. Kelly, first lieutenant, with rank from March 1, vice Chas. T. Pine, declined; David Moore, second lieutenant, with rank from March 1, vice Geo. W. Smith, declined.

Eighty-third Infantry—Myndert M. Degraff, captain, with rank from April 23, original; Frank F. Carduff, first lieutenant, with rank from April 23, original; Charles Tousley, second lieutenant, with rank from April 23, original.

Eighty-fourth Infantry—Alexander D. Gardiner, second lieutenant, with rank from February 13, vice W. Henderson, declined; Niel J. Hepburn, first lieutenant, with rank from April 15, vice John Cornish, promoted.

Ninety-sixth Infantry—Andrew Stauff, colonel, with rank from April 9, vice J. D. Krebholz, resigned; John Lellman, captain, with rank from April 9, vice Frank Keller, resigned; August C. Homan, second lieutenant, with rank from April 15, vice Atonis O. Jones, resigned.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations of officers in the National Guard State of New York have been accepted during the same period:

Seventh Division—John W. Kelly, judge-advocate, April 29.

First Cavalry—J. H. Timmerman, major, April 30.

Third Cavalry—F. Bornholdt, captain, April 30.

Ninth Infantry—Henry Harley, assistant commissary of subsistence, April 30.

Tenth Infantry—Edward F. Reilly, captain, April 29.

Nineteen Battalion of Infantry—Geo. W. Hawkins, first lieutenant, April 8.

Twenty-third Infantry—John Merritt, first lieutenant, April 30.

Forty-seventh Infantry—James G. Kent, second lieutenant, April 29.

Forty-eighth Infantry—James Malone, second lieutenant, April 29.

Fifty-first Infantry—W. H. Hamilton, captain, April 29.

Fifty-fourth Infantry—Frank A. Madden, captain, April 30.

Seventy-first Infantry—Charles F. Smillie, second lieutenant, April 29.

Ninety-sixth Infantry—G. Schuchard, captain, April 2; G. C. Reichert, second lieutenant, April 30; G. F. Williams, captain, April 30; Claus Finck, first lieutenant, April 30.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

ADVICES from Strasbourg state that the German regulations of the 26th of March, 1868, as to army service, have been introduced into the newly-acquired Provinces, but considerable relief will be given with regard to one year volunteers for the next few years. Great attention will be paid to claims for exemption in special cases. Whoever served in the regular army of France on the 17th of December, 1870, will be entirely free from military service.

THE semi-official Hungarian paper, *Pester Lloyd*, observes that the announcement of the proposed fortification of Sebastopol and other points in the Crimea has nothing alarming about it, for the simple reason that there is no chance of a new war like that in the Crimea. Since 1854 the fact that Russia's way to Constantinople lies through Vienna and Pesth has grown into a dogma. Any future war arising out of the Eastern question would be settled either in Poland proper or in the western provinces of Russia.

A DEATH has recently taken place in the Army, says the *Naval and Military Gazette*, which, although it can scarcely be chronicled in our obituary column, is nevertheless not unworthy of a passing notice. "Tanby," the celebrated antelope of the Seventh Hussars, has paid the last debt of nature. A post-mortem examination revealed the fact that "Tanby" had an ostrich-like capacity for eating singularly indigestible substances. In his stomach were found several brass knobs, a sponge, half a yard of flannel, and sundry other articles which are not generally recognized as articles of food—even for antelopes. "Tanby's" head and horns will, we understand, be preserved by the regiment in memoriam.

A DISPATCH from Paris, May 2, announces that General Cissey, Minister of War, has informed the Committee of the French Assembly that the Government has decided to Court-martial Bazaine. He opposes the publication of the report of the Commission on Capitulations, because, if the correspondence which it contains between Bazaine and Prince Frederick Charles is made known, it will prejudice the negotiations opened to-day with Germany for the liberation of the French territory. The Committee insist on the trial of General Wimpffen, hoping thereby to expose Napoleon's conduct at Sedan. Forty-five Deputies of the Radical Left demand that President Thiers suspend the executions of Communists until the Assembly shall reach a decision on the question of amnesty and capital punishment.

A CORRESPONDENT of *Broad Arrow* writes: "The authorities at the War Department having decided on giving special instruction to the officers and men of the Royal Engineers in submarine torpedo operations, instructions have been forwarded to Chatham directing the fitting up of one of the vessels of war, attached to the reserve of that port, to be handed over to the War Department for use by the officers and sappers of the Royal Engineers for torpedo operations. The vessel selected by the admiralty for the purpose is the two-decker, unarmored screw line-of-battle-ship *Hood*, built at Chatham Dockyard a few years ago, and since attached to the sailing reserve in the Medway, where she has for some time been rotting out a useless existence. The *Hood* is exceedingly well adapted for the service on which she is to be employed, and she will be at once docked and fitted for the new duties on which she is to be engaged."

It is interesting at this moment to read what Napoleon I thought, after his fall, on the subject of military re-organization. In his conversation of the 21st of September and 14th of November, 1816, with Las Casas, as reported in the "Memorial de Ste. Helene," he expresses himself strongly in favor of compulsory service, and also advocates localization. "The French army," he said, "should number 1,200,000 men, divided into active, home, and reserve forces; but to keep such a host in efficient order would be beyond the strength of any single war minister acting on the system at present established, and this is why I had long meditated organizing France into twenty or twenty-five military districts, each of which would have formed an army entire in itself, with commissariat, ambulances, training depot, and camp. The emulation excited between the different armies and the *esprit de corps* that would arise would be of great help to the general good of the service. The great point would be to find twenty able and honest administrators, who should be so many sub-ministers of war, and he held individually responsible for their respective armies being able to take the field at a week's notice."

It has been the custom of a British regiment, the Welsh Fusiliers—from time immemorial to have a goat as an emblem of Wales, which takes his place at the head of the battalion on parade, or on the march, when he proudly walks in front of the band, at the side of the drum-major, his horns decorated with a massive silver plate (having a suitable inscription) which was presented by the Queen of England in 1849. The regiment is, of course, proud of these little marks of royal distinction. From time to time these animals have been presented to the regiment by the Queen from her beautiful breed of Cashmere goats kept at Windsor Park. The last goat having died some few months back, application was made for another, and her Majesty having signified her assent, a few weeks since, the quartermaster, accompanied by the drum-major, presented themselves at Windsor, and having selected a noble fellow from the flock he was taken to the quarters of the regiment at Pembroke Dock, where he at once became a great pet among the officers and soldiers, is carefully attended to by a drummer detailed for that duty, has attended his first church parade, and conducted himself with suitable gravity and decorum.

INFORMATION respecting the variation of the compass has been issued from the Hydrographic Office, British Admiralty, apprising mariners of the decrease which has taken place in the variation during the last fifteen years, and which has amounted to about a quarter of a point in the British Islands and adjacent seas. The

average annual decrease is at present nine to ten minutes. The correction at various points round the coast of Great Britain is given in the Admiralty notice, as also at numerous points on the eastern shores of the North and Baltic seas. From Shetland, the Orkneys, Hebrides, to the northern coast of France, between Calais and Usant, the present general direction of the lines of equal variation is S. S. W. and N. N. E. (true), ranging in amount from eighteen to twenty-six deg. westerly. From the eastern coast of the British Isles to the Cattegat the lines of equal variation are N. by E. and S. by W., ranging from twenty-two to thirteen deg.; and from the Cattegat to the Gulf of Finland, nearly N. and S., ranking from thirteen to two deg. westerly. By a comparison of the variation corrected to the present date with that laid down on the numerous charts and sailing directions now in use, it will be seen that the variation allowed is erroneous, and must therefore be altered to ensure safe navigation.

A MEMORANDUM has been issued by H. R. H. the field-marshall commanding-in-chief, directing that in future "clothing for recruits be fitted as loose as possible, to enable them as they increase in size from good diet and healthy exercise to undergo their drill without impeding the free use of their lungs and the action of the heart." The present dress has descended to us from the days of Frederick the Great, and was adopted as an adjunct of the precise but slow system of tactics introduced by that great commander, and so successfully employed by him. The old system of formation and tactics have been, and are still being greatly modified to suit the more rapid evolutions necessitated by the introduction of long-range arms of precision. "Why, then," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "should we adhere with very slight modifications, to the obsolete description of clothing? Can anything be more ridiculous than to expect a man to exert himself as a soldier is required to do, and at the same time to cramp his action by enclosing him in a closely fitting coat, with a high stiff collar, and with belts across his chest? Dressed in this manner, and carrying in addition a considerable load in the shape of a valise, rifle and ammunition, he is expected to march many miles for several consecutive days and to manoeuvre rapidly over broken and difficult country. Our sailors are not so treated. Their dress is designed to suit the work they have to perform. Surely our military authorities might borrow an idea from the navy, more particularly as the adoption of a valise instead of the old knapsack obviates the necessity, which undoubtedly did exist formerly, of making the soldier's coat fit across the shoulders. There is no reason why a comparatively loose-fitting coat should not, if properly made, look as smart as the present dress; but it is this mania for 'smartness,' quite apart from real efficiency, which has hitherto prevented the idea from being entertained by the authorities."

A RETURN showing the figure of merit attained by the battalions and depots in the musketry training for 1871-72 has been published by the Horse Guards for general information and guidance. The results of the practice of the infantry battalions and depots are considered as satisfactory, and may be classified thus:

	Figure of Merit."				Total.
	125 or Very good.	100 or Good.	80 or Moderate.	Under 80 or Bad.	
Battalions...	11	39	29	3	82
Depots.....	12	19	26	5	62

THE 35-ton guns of our British cousins do not seem to be as successful as was hoped. In proving they are each to be subjected to a test of three rounds only, two with the ordinary service of 110 pounds, and one with the proof charge of 115 pounds of gunpowder—a more severe strain than they are ever likely to have to endure again. Four, it is stated, have already passed the test satisfactorily. The ordinary charge of the 35-ton gun was originally intended to be 120 pounds of powder, with a proof charge considerably exceeding this. This gun will not be able to fire the projectiles of the 25-ton naval gun of the same bore.

La Patrie states that the special credit for which the Assembly will be asked to complete the defences of France will be divided into three parts. The first will comprise the reconstruction of the works in and around Paris on a new principle. The second part will provide for the construction of fortifications applicable to the departments recently evacuated and those whose neutralization ceases on the payment of the fourth half milliard. The third part will comprise works to be erected on the frontier line, of exceptional importance, and will include four fortresses, Longwy, Verdun, Toul, and Belfort. The defences of the first place, which were constructed by Vauban, will be retained with certain modifications, and the general system will be completed by a series of works to be constructed on Mont St. Martin. The fortresses of Toul and Verdun will be repaired, and Belfort will be the centre of a complete defensive system, in which will be comprised the canton of Giromagny, which has been restored since the peace.

THE *Kolnische Zeitung*, which had a correspondent present at the Brighton review in England, says: "The rain which fell had no effect on their warlike ardor, as early yesterday morning the commanding generals put themselves at the head of their respective forces. Sir Alfred Horsford disposed of 12,189 men and 22 guns, while General Lysons opposed him with 11,032 men and 20 guns. For the greater part the troops were brought by rail from London. The preparations were made with remarkable rapidity, so that the troops were all in position about 10 A. M. General Horsford represented the invading enemy, and General Lysons led the sons of Albion to do battle against the intruders. About 11 A. M. the advance of General Lysons fell in with the outposts of the enemy. Some time, however, elapsed before the introductory skirmishing developed into the actual fight. In the meantime, the weather did its part in lending an

appearance of reality to the spectacle. The rain fell in torrents, the ways becoming flooded, and here and there a gun stuck fast. The excitement, however, which was occasioned by the popping, soon made the warriors forget their drenched garments, and the engagement soon became very warm on both sides. The Prussian system of manœuvring was the basis of all the movements, and, following out a general plan, a part of the ground was flagged off beyond which the field was not to be encroached upon. This circumstance, or rather the want of coolness which is peculiar to many volunteer officers, decided the fate of the day in a very unforeseen manner. A rash brigadier (tollkunner Brigade fuhrer) passed the red flags on to the forbidden ground, and appeared in a completely wrong place. At the same time on the other side some hitherto concealed movement came fully into effect. The result was that the centre of the invading army was completely pierced, while the left wing of the Britons was turned, and placed in an 'ugly fix.' The different corps were completely mingled together that nobody could tell who were friends or who were enemies. Generals, staff officers, and adjutants galloped about as if they had been possessed. Staff officers and brigadiers got into altercations, while the brave warriors fired away with spirit till they had puffed off their last cartridge, and then the umpire and staff came up and commenced a long critique, which culminated in an expression that the battle was undecided."

In speaking of the celerity of modern military movements, an English lecturer compared the opening of the Crimean and the French war as follows: "On the 27th of March, 1854, war was declared against Russia. England and France sent a contingent of 20,000 men each. The first gun was fired off Odessa, and on the 20th of September, 1854, the first battle was fought on the river Alma, against 40,000 men—that is, about five months after war had been declared. In the recent campaign two battles were fought within eighteen days after the declaration of war by Napoleon III. Subsequent operations have changed quite as much. In the campaign of 1814, on the Meuse, Moselle, and Rhine, Napoleon had 87,000 men, and defended a line three hundred miles in extent. The Germans, with Austrians and Russians, had 300,000 men, and a reserve of 50,000 men; yet, not until April was Napoleon driven towards Paris. Napoleon III had 264,000 men; the roads at his command were more than double the number in existence in the days of his uncle, besides a network of railways connected with Paris. The Germans had 450,000 men concentrated in a few days, and had ample means for bringing up reserves, together with 1,450 guns. On this occasion they had no assistance from Austria. The campaign opened on the 2d of August, 1870. In a month Napoleon III was ruined, in six weeks Paris threatened.

Some one writes to the *Spectator* as follows:

"SIR: Do Frenchmen read and understand the contents of your paper? After the return from the last war, the general officer commanding the troops at Bayonne could not have been aware that 600 of the Artillery Transport Corps, encamped outside the walls, were to a man in such a beastly dirty state as to be quite unworthy of the name of soldiers. One man per troop sat himself down as a sentry at the head of each stable, into which were crammed about seventy horses, all touching each other; their bedding a mass of dung, and, when brought outside, bore not the slightest appearance of grooming; not a bit nor a saddle was touched, and on the left front the straw forage was lying in an enormous heap, just ready to be ruined by a shower of rain; and when I made a remark as to the probable result to a French officer present, he could but agree with me. Do not misunderstand me. This body of men and horses I saw several weeks after the conclusion of the war. The general officer who is so seriously to blame, as an item of a very defective military administration, is a fine-looking, intelligent, soldier-like, and gentlemanly man. What, then, was he about, not to have properly and personally inspected these troops? And is it necessary to tell him that if M. Thiers wants to get a future army to compete with Germany, he had better make an early requisition for soap, hot water, and towels, for without cleanliness no troops can ever be worth a sixpence? The extraordinary part of my statement consists in there having been a battery of Artillery of the Guard at Bayonne at the very time I paid my unlucky visit to its environs. That battery was in as high order as any of our batteries. Why was one body perfect, the other disgraceful, and yet both under the orders, and within five minutes' walk of the quarters of the general officer?"

MRS. DAVID R. PORTER, wife of Ex-Governor Porter, and mother of General Horace Porter, Private Secretary of President Grant, died at Harrisburg, Penn., on Wednesday night.

FACTS FOR THE LADIES.—Mrs. S. A. Davis, Berlin, N. Y., has used Wheeler & Wilson's Lock-Stitch Sewing Machine 17 years in collar making; supported herself and an invalid mother, whom she also tended, and has saved over \$2,000; she has been a constant worker by foot power and not sick a day. See the new Improvements and Wood's Lock-Stitch Ripper.

BIRTH.

FRANK.—On April 15, to the wife of Dr. Adam Frank, U. S. Navy, a son.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

GRIDLEY—VINCENT.—On Wednesday, May 1, at St. Paul's Episcopal church, Erie, Pa., by the Rev. J. F. Spaulding, Lieutenant-Commander C. V. Gridley, U. S. Navy, to HATTIE F., daughter of the Hon. J. P. Vincent, of the above place. (No cards.)

DIED.

WOODY.—Suddenly, April 8, 1872, at Fort Monroe, Va., CATHERINE B., wife of John S. Moody, in the 50th year of her age.